THE HINDOO PATRIOT

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ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY

Summary of News.

Monday, 30th November.

THE Nizam's Government have sanctioned the sum of Rs. 3,000 for rain-making experiments by dynamite explosions. These experiments will be conducted under the supervision of Mr. A. J. Dunlop, Inspector-General of Revenue, and His Excellency the Prime Minister and the Nawab Vikar-ul-Umra, Revenue Minister, propose to be present on the occasion.

THE party sent to survey the telegraph line to Gilgit, has been obliged to return to Srinagar from Astor, owing to the road being impassable from heavy falls of snow. They will most likely remain there till February.

THE London correspondent of the Madras *Hindu* writes:—"The Women's College at Cambridge—Girton and Newnham—have a Parliamentary Debating Society. One of Mr. Caine's daughters is a student at Newnham. Two or three weeks ago she gave notice of a motion on Indian affairs and suggested a reduction of the Indian army. What the extent of the proposed reduction was I do not know, as I have not seen the terms of the motion. Anyhow the subject proved to be of such general interest that two nights were devoted to its discussion. When she entered into the fray Miss Ruth Caine had only eight supporters; so well did she argue her case, so convincing were her statements that she converted among others, the Sacretary of State for India, and was able to take sixteen supporters into the Lobby in support of her motion. Among Miss Caine's supporters were Mr. W. C. Bonnerji's two daughters—the eldest being especially energetic and helpful. It is curious how the names of those in the real arena of political life are to be found in the mock arena. For example, while on one side were the Caines and the Bonnerjis, a leader on the opposite side—exactly as might have happened in Parliament itself—was a Stephen, a lady connection, if not indeed the daughter, of Sir James Stephen."

THE comments of the foreign press have been chiefly directed at Lord Salisbury's remarks on the Egyptian question. It is not surprising to discover that the Paris newspapers are exceedingly angry with the English Premier for attempting, as they say, to evade the British pledges under dilatory pretexts. The *Temps*, after a sneer at the exaggerations over the cheap victory at Tel-el-Kebir, considers that Lord Salisbury's language calls for the most legitimate reserve. Not only is he so perfidious as to impugn the patriotism of Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Morley, who are guilty of the unpardonable offence of wishing to keep solemn engagements taken in the face of Europe, but he has invented a new diplomatic weapon, a two-edge theory to justify the indefinite occupation of Egypt. The paper denounces England for the glaring breach of faith contemplated by Lord Salisbury, and looks on the forth-coming election to settle this question, believing that Lord Salisbury's Cabinet is doomed.

THE *Novoe Vremya* says Lord Salisbury's speech leaves no doubt that England intends to be the sole judge of the proper moment for the evacuation of Egypt. From the present Minister it is hopeless to expect any thing, and it is necessary to wait with patience for Mr. Gladstone's return to office.

ALMOST a panic prevailed at the Berlin Bourse the other day. The brothers Felix and Siegmund Sommerfeld, of the well-known Berlin Bank, committed suicide, owing to the heavy failure of Hirschfeld and Wolff. Numerous customers lost confidence and withdrew their deposits. One depositor, not satisfied, immediately went to the police, and in order to avoid the arrest two partners decided to commit suicide. While some clerks at the Bourse and others had gone to dinner, they locked themselves in the private office. Felix sat on a sofa, while his brother sat in an armchair. Each cut open an artery at the left wrist, and then shot himself through the temple, the two shots being almost simultaneous. The police were informed, and the door was broken open. The brothers were found lying unconscious, and on being taken to the hospital died.

Tuesday, 1st December.

To alleviate the sufferings of the starving peasants in the Jodhpore territory, several special trains, carrying large supplies of grain to Marwar, pass through Ajmere daily. Most of the grain is exported from Delhi and other stations in the Punjab and Cawnpore in the North-West Provinces.

THE *World* says that the announcement that managers of the Liberal Party have been discussing the succession of Liberal leadership is incorrect. It is, however, quite true, in spite of the "authorized" contradiction, that Sir William Harcourt's eyesight is in a very critical condition. His eyes became troublesome about eighteen months ago, and he went last year to consult a famous oculist at Wiesbaden, from whose treatment he has derived much benefit for some time. His case has lately become very serious, and the sight of one eye is nearly lost, while the other is threatened. Of course Sir William Harcourt has the best advice in Europe, but his case is a peculiar one. No operation can be performed, so the gravest fears are entertained. It is simply ridiculous for the news agency to announce that "there is nothing in the matter with Sir William Harcourt's eyesight or his eyes."

CASES conected with the Benares temple riots are still occasionally cropping up. One of these, in which the accused was found in possession of property plundered from Babu Sitaram's house, has been committed to the Sessions by the Joint-Magistrate.

THE following particulars have been received of the attack by Nagas on a transport driver near the Meikelthana stage. The driver had been searching with two others in the surrounding jungle for a strayed bullock belonging to a batch proceeding from Meikelthana to Maitithum. After finding the bullock this man left it with the other two drivers and returned to Meikelthana to get some food before proceeding on to Maitiphum. It was late and getting dark before he again started on his journey. After walking a short way he was set on by seven Nagas, knocked about with daos, his two ears cut off, and a piece of his scalp from the top of his head carried off. He was then dragged into the jungle and left there. A party of sepoys out the following day after a leopard were attracted by his groans to his assistance, and carried him into Meikelthana, where he now lies in a precarious condition.

MR. Justice Wilson is said to have somewhat modified his plans. He will go home on six months' leave when the High Court rises for the Christmas vacation, and will probably retire after the next long vacation.

THE Governor of Pondicherry will visit His Excellency the Viceroy, arriving in Calcutta on the 7th of January. His Excellency will be accmpanied by a Private Secretary and an Aide-de-Camp, and will stay with M. Jules Jouslain at the French Consulate.

AN imposing funeral service over the remains of the late Lord Lytton was held on Saturday in the Anglican Church, at Paris, which was crowded with notables. The streets were packed by dense crowds to witness the funeral procession. An escort of four battaries of Infantry, two regiments of Cavalry, and two batteries of Artillery accompanied the funeral cortege, and defiled before the coffin and saluted the remains on its arrival at the railway station.

THE Government of India Resolution appointing a Commission to inquire into the working of the Deccan Agriculturists' Relief Act, and generally into the subject of land indebtedness and the best way of dealing with it, left two seats on the Commission to be filled by the Bombay Government. The Poona Sarvajanik Sabha has addressed to the Bombay Government a petition in favour of the nomination of non-official representatives to these vacant seats, and we see, the *Bombay Gazette* thinks, it would be wise to appoint at least one non-official Native gentleman. The members nominated already by the Government of India are all officials, and it is pointed out that the Commission's conclusions will lose nothing in weight and influence, but on the other hand will probably gain if a certain non-official element is introduced. The Sarvajanik Sabha wishes to see the money-lending classes and the borrowing classes directly represented by selections from their ranks.

Wednesday, 2nd December.

A PAPER has been published by the Government of the North-Western Provinces on the sanitary precautions which were taken to prevent the outbreak of epidemic diseases on the occasion of the last Kumbh Fair at Hardwar in April. The occurrence of the Fair, which is held every twelve years, has hitherto been attended with serious outbreaks of this kind, but thanks to the promptitude with which precautionary measures were taken it has not been followed this year by any epidemic symptoms. For purposes of sanitary control, the entire site of the Fair was divided into eight sections, each under the charge of a police inspector, with a staff of constables, chaukidars, and vacemators. These formed the sanitary patrol of each section, and each constable was assigned a fixed beat and was instructed: (1) to prevent overcrowding; (2) see to surface cleanliness; (3) give notice of and remove nuisances; (4) report offenders; (5) remove cases of infectious disease and (6) see to the proper location of baggage and other animals. A staff of over 1,200 sweepers was employed, while the Police and chaukidars numbered together about 1,500 officers and men. It is estimated that the pilgrims were at least half a million in number.

SPEAKING of the Kashmir affairs, the *Civil and Military Gazette* writes:—'The serious responsibility which the Government of India have undertaken in restoring the Maharaja of Kashmir to power is already becoming apparent: for impartial observers in Kashmir can already observe signs of friction: and we are in daily receipt of letters of the old intriguing kind regarding alleged proceedings in the State. Anyone with a little foresight and knowledge of Kashmir affairs can easily see that, unless the brothers honestly make common cause together, the administration is bound to fail again. The Maharaja's advisers have not proved themselves of noted integrity previously; and unless the Maharaja now reposes confidence in his brother Raja Amar Singh, and acts by his advice, his old ill-advisers will soon cause trouble. The department which has proved least satisfactory under the present administration of Kashmir is, perhaps, its police. There have been, it is said, more thefts: and person and property are more unsafe now than ever. The celebrated police torture case has brought to light many underhand practices, but action is suspended. If the delinquents are punished, police oppression will be checked, and life and property will be more secure in Kashmir.'

MATTERS are once more assuming a critical turn in the Chingleput District owing to the want of rain there during the past fortnight, while on the other hand it is consoling to think that Government is alive to the gravity of the situation. Government admits that the want of rain causes much apprehension and discouragement; that the standing crops, both wet and dry, require rain urgently; and that the wet crops are withering in many places. The abrupt termination of rain in the district was unexpected. The progress of rain, however, should have been more carefully watched, for it must be admitted that there has been some hastiness in closing some of the relief kitchens in the district.

THE final figures of the Census for portions of India are now complete. The province of Bombay has a population of 15,985,270; Sind 2,871,774; Aden 44,079; Ajmere 542,358; the Punjab, British territory, 20,166,847; the Punjab, feudatory, 4,263,280; Berar 2,897,491; Assam, 5,435,243; the Andamans 15,609, Coorg 173,055, Mysore 4,943,604, Kashmir, 2,543,952.

MR. A. O. Hume writes to the *Pioneer* as follows in reference to the report current in the English press, that he had consented to stand for East Dulwich at the general election:—"Sir,—To prevent further mistakes let me say that I have *not* consented to stand for East Dulwich or *any other constituency*. The only foundation for these repeated statements is, that during the last fourteen months I have been pressed to stand for the Ayr Burghs, the Forest of Dean, East Renfrewshire and East Dulwich, but I have in no case consented, my health being too indifferent to prevent of my undertaking the laborious duties of an M. P.—Yours truly, A. O. Hume."

EXPERIMENTS are to be made in the manufacture of smokeless powder and other high explosives at the gunpowder factory, Kirkee.

Thursday, 3rd December.

DOMESTIC Economy in Schools—Is the subject of a Resolution in this week's *Gazette of India* which runs as follows:—In the Notification read in the preamble the Governor-General in Council offered a reward of Rs. 1,000 for the best text-book on Domestic Economy and Sanitary Science for the use of the senior classes in English and Anglo-Vernacular Schools, and by a Resolution dated the 23rd August 1889 His Excellency in Council appointed a Committee consisting of the Principal of the Medical College at Lahore Surgeon-Major Stephen, Sanitary Commissioner of the Punjab, and Honorary Surgeon Rahim Khan, Khan Bahadur, Lecturer on Materia Medica and Medicine at the Lahore Medical College, to examine and report on the works submitted by competitors. The Committee report in May 1890 in favour of the work submitted by Surgeon A. E. Roberts of the Indian Medical Service, to whom the Government of India in their Resolution of 11th July 1890 allotted the reward of Rs. 1,000. The work has since been carefully revised by Surgeon Roberts, in communication with the Surgeon-General with the Government of India, with the object of making it suitable for educational purposes, and His Excelleney in Council now commends it to Local Governments and Administrations for introduction as a higher text-book on Sanitary Science into their English and Anglo-Vernacular Schools.

A MUNICIPAL election is approaching in Bombay as well as in Calcutta, and a Bombay contemporary has something to say on the manner of preparing for and conducting these elections. The *Times of India* objects to a canvass by postcards which seems to be the fovourite method of soliciting votes in Bombay, and asks:—"Why do not the candidates here adopt the same plan as the candidates for municipal honours in all the other great cities of the British Empire? In cities such as Manchester, Liverpool, Birmingham, and Leeds, or Melbourne, Sydney, Quebec and Montreal, every candidate addresses his constituents, as a matter of course, through the columns of the leading local newspapers. In twenty or thirty lines more or less he explains his views on the burning municipal questions of the day; he gives a definite pledge as to what he is prepared to do; and he is also able to show why he thinks he should be elected at all—and that is a problem many of those whose postcards are now fiying about have not properly faced. A collection of these addresses makes most instructive reading, and greatly adds to the interest and excitement of a general election. The best addresses, of course, carry the most weight, for individuality always tells; and in these days of keen competition the man who keeps himself in the back-ground had better retire a little further and give up the struggle altogether. There is nothing like a fair field and no favour, and our modest proposal surely opens out the finest possible field to such of our local orators as are always complaining of the way in which their speeches are condensed by the reporters."

THE *Behar Herald* writes:—"A very important movement has been set on foot by the Maharaja Bahadur of Gidhour at Sonepur, of which the effects may be far-reaching and beneficial to the highest classes in this Province. The movement to which we refer was the formation of an Association with the object of spreading education among the Brahmins and Kshetriyas of Behar, and otherwise bettering their condition. This desirable decision was come to at a meeting of Kshetriyas and others held on Monday, the 16th November, in the camp of the Maharajah Bahadur of Gidhour at Sonepore. There was a large gathering, the Maharajah Bahadur of Gidhour himself being in the chair, and the proceedings were throughout marked by the spirit of determination and earnestness which leads to success. A Provincial Committee, with Babu Guru Prasad Singh and Babu Bissesswar Singh as secretaries, was appointed to report on the best means to carry out the objects in view."

THE results of the Calcutta University Examination for the degree of Bachelor of Law are as follow:—

Total number passed, forty-five.

Ripon College, Calcutta	17
Metropolitan Institution, Calcutta	12
City College, Calcutta	9
Berhampore College	2
Hooghly College...	2
Raj Chundra College, Barisal	1
Agra College	1
Morris College, Nagpore	1

The Nagpore College stands first.

THE Secretary of State for India has decided that it is not desirable to enter into any special contracts with any particular steam-boat companies for passages to and from Bombay and other Indian ports, and has declined to make any change in the existing rules for the grant of passage money.

Friday, 4th December.

SIR J. GORST attended a meeting of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce on the 6th November. Mr. Robert Gladstone, chairman of the East India and China Trades Section of the Chamber, presided. Sir J. Gorst said that the most important feature in connexion with the trade of India was the development of the 17,300 miles of Railway. Of this number 3,040 miles were owned by Companies, mostly guaranteed companies; 12,900 miles were owned by the State itself, and about 1,300 miles by the Native States. During the last five years this mileage had been increased by 3,500 miles, an average of 650 miles per year, and the work of construction of railways was going on with the utmost possible vigour. The Government of India fully admitted that there was room for more railways, and they were very desirous of seeing them made. Their policy was to encourage private enterprise by all legitimate means. Land was granted free in all cases where the project received the approval of the Government. At the same time the policy of the Government had been and would continue to be to spend as much money as financial prudence would allow in the construction of Railways by the State. In that way during the last five years the Indian Government had spent an average of £9,500,000 per annum upon Railway construction.

As to the extension of Railways in Burmah towards the Chinese frontier, upon which Government had received representations from many Chambers of Commerce, Sir John Gorst said that the Government of India was fully alive to the importace of establishing Railways which would open up fresh fields for British commerce, but it must be remembered that the northern districts of Burmah were infested by wild tribes, and their physical conditions presented serious obstacles. The Burmah Railway by the Mu Valley was gradually being taken on towards Eastern Bengal, and on the Bengal side a section of the Assam line would be connected with Munipur and Upper Burmah by a good Military Road which had been begun. That railway communication between Calcutta and Bhamo would some day be established was pretty certain, but considerable time would necessarily elapse before it became an accomplished fact. As to the question of telegraphs the Government was entirely in accord with the Chamber in favour of reducing the rate wherever possible.

ANOTHER subject upon which the Chamber had been in correspondence with the Government was the adulteration of Indian wheat. The result of the discussions which took place in 1888 and 1889 was that the Secretary of State called for a report of last year. This report had not yet been received, but the Imperial Government were expecting it almost daily; the general opinion which was evoked in those discussions was that the Government could not successfully interfere by legislation to compel producers to send pure wheat to market, or to enforce the exportation of pure wheat. It was, however, held that the Government by promoting the establishment of elevators and other appliances at the great wheat markets on the Indian Railways, might perhaps further the rectification of the wheat trade. Though the Government of India had not reported on the matter, yet information received at the India Office showed that a great improvement had already taken place.

SPEAKING of the adulteration of Indian cotton, Sir John said that the export of raw cotton from India was one of the most important staples of Indian trade. Indian cotton was of much less interest to Lancashire than it used to be; but the time might come round again when Lancashire might be a large customer for Indian cotton, and it was satisfactory to know that the acreage devoted to the cultivation of cotton in India continued steadily to increase, though the area fluctuated in accordance with the fall of prices from season to season.

SIR John Gorst also referred to the export duty on rice, which stood as one of the first to be repealed when the Indian Treasury could afford it, and to the taxation of profits upon goods consigned for sale to resident Indian agents.

A CORRESPONDENT writes in a London journal: "It is, I am assured by an important authority, quite a mistake to assume that Sir George White has been definitely selected as the successor of Sir Frederick Roberts in India. No decision has been arrived at. As a fact, there are two, and probably three, candidates whose chances of receiving the position are quite as strong as those of Sir George White. It is known now that Lord Wolseley would not care to accept the post: but this is not believed to be altogether the disposition of Sir Evelyn Wood whose pronounced sympathy with the new School of Military Science may not, however, be quite in harmony with the opinions of the Indian Council. However Sir George Greeves, the Commander-in-Chief at Bombay, is a very strong candidate for the position, and Sir Charles Gough is certainly in the running."

Saturday, 5th December.

THE *Pioneer* writes:—'The reports fromHyderabad that a compromise had been effected between the Nizam's Government and Sirdar Diler Jung in the matter of the pending suit in the Bombay High Court have become less assured lately: and the rumour is that the officiating Resident is already exerting himself to induce the Government to let the matter go on to the bitter end. The history of Mr. Plowden's reign in Kashmir has prepared the world to anticipate that in any matter requiring discretion he and judgment are to be found on different sides. What is to be gained by litigation? The Nizam's Government has slept on their claim against Abdul Huk for so long that it is absurd to say that they are taking it up as a matter of principle: and as a matter of expediency the answer to the plaint which was published by the Sirdar last September, though of course it did not show his whole hand, showed enough to make it clear that he has a good deal to say on his side of the case, and to ensure a prolonged and enormously costly trial. The Nazim's Government is believed to have spent already some five lakhs of rupees; if it continues for two years more—and it can scarcely be finished under that time—it will probably cost as much more. On the other hand, the utmost that the Government, if successful, considering Abdul Huk's counter-claim, can expect to realise, would seem to be about fifteen lakhs: and who is to guarantee success? As everyone must know, the only certainty about the law in a case like this is the certainty that there will be much mutual recrimination. A vast deal will be said and suggested against the reputations both of living and dead. The only interest that will be served by going on is the interest of the lawyers. To say that the Hydrabad State is bound to go on in this case regardless of circumstances, because its legal advisers think—and no one would *prima facie* suppose otherwise—that it is a strong claim, would be merely marking want of decision under an air of resolution.'

THE women employed in the cotton mill at Ahmedabad have presented a very pathetic petition to the Governor against the proposal to restrict women's labour in the cotton mills to eleven hours per day. They say that if the proposed change is made, mill-owners must either work the whole of their mills for shorter time than at present, or dispense with the services of women and replace them by men. After alluding to the hardship that would result from an enforced change of employment, and the fact that cottage industries have been killed by foreign competition, the memorialists remark: "Now-a-days the price of grain, such as wheat and bajree, is three to four times dearer than what was in former years, and therefore the condition of the poor people residing in large towns like this is very trying; but they are very thankful to God that the mill industry is introduced here by which thousands of poor people are able to earn their bread with comparative ease." In conclusion, the memorialists beg to be saved from philanthropic legislation.

THE *Tribune* of Lahore says:—"Dewan Bahadur, S. Subramaniya Iyer, C. I. E., has been offered, and has accepted, the Judgeship of the Madras High Court vacated temporarily by Mr. Justice Muthuswami Iyer, who is ill, and has obtained leave for three months. Mr. Subramaniya Iyer was President-elect of the Seventh National Congress. His elevation to the Bench will, of course, prevent his presiding at the next session, of the Congress. The *Pioneer* is jubilant, and ironically condoles with the Congress. Where is the occasion? There never has been much difficulty about the finding of a President, and we suspect there will be none this time either. We think, these repeated compliments, paid to the Congress by the Government, are matter for congratulation, and not commiseration. Mr. Justice Telang was and still is a prominent Congresman. Sir Romesh Chunder Mitter left the High Court, and immediately joined the Congress. Mr. S. Subramniya Iyer was the most prominent Congress-wallah in Madras, and he has been sent on to the High Court. By a singular irony of fate this dying, disloyal, unrepresentative Congress has supplied men for the highest appointments in the country and in its ranks are to be found the leaders of public opinion. The real danger is that the Government by picking out the best men for its own service may deplete the ranks of the Congress of its stalwarts."

THE question of raising new regiments for the Punjab Frontier Force still remains unsettled. The delay is believed to indicate serious doubts on the part of Government whether more should be done than adding a fourth squadron to the Corps of Guides.

THE miners who had been out on strike in the north of France have accepted the award made by the joint board of arbitrators, and resumed work.

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THE INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE CULTIVATION OF SCIENCE.

(210, BOW-BAZAR STREET.)

(SESSION 1891-92.)

LECTURE by Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F. C. S., on *Monday* the *7th December*, at 4-15 P. M.
Subject: Primary Alcohols concluded.

LECTURE by Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, on *Tuesday*, the *8th Inst.* at 7 P. M.
Subject: Arago's Rotation; Ruhmkorff's Coil; Electric Discharges in Vacua.

LECTURE by Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F. C. S., on *Wednesday*, the *9th Inst.*, at 4-15 P. M.
Subject: Derivatives of the Monatomic Alcohols Ether Proper.

LECTURE by Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F. C. S., on *Thursday* the *10th Inst.*, at 4-15 P. M.
Subject: Thio-Alcohols and Ethers.

LECTURE by the Rev. Father Lafont, S. J., C. I. E., on *Thursday*, the *10th Inst.*, at 7 P. M.
Subject: The Laws of Vibrating Strings. Stringed Musical Intruments.

LECTURE by Babu Ram Chundra Datta, F. C. S., on *Friday* the *11th Inst.*, at 4-15 P. M.
Subject: Ethers with Monobasic inorganic Acids, and the Nitro-derivatives of the Hydro-Carbons.

PRACTICAL CLASS in Chemistry under Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F. C. S., on *Saturday*, the *12th Inst.*, at 3 P. M.

LECTURE by Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F. C. S., on *Saturday*, the *12th Inst.*, at 4 P. M.
Subject: Ethers of the Bi-, Tri-, and Poly-basic Inorganic Acids.

MAHENDRA LAL SIRCAR, M. D.,
December 5th, 1891. *Honorary Secretary.*

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1891.

BANKING IN THE MOFUSSIL.

THE October number of the *Calcutta Review* contains an interesting and instructive paper on the subject which heads this article. The writer commences with a history of all the Banks that have existed in India, taken from Mr. Cook's book. This book clearly shows that a very large proportion of the Indian Banks have ended in failure. The list of the old banks given by Mr. Cook is too long to be re-produced in these estimates; but his account, to use the language of the writer in the *Calcutta Review*, forms "a most interesting and instructive record of sound mercantile enterprise, perseverance under difficulties, rash and unscrupulous speculation, and swindling of the most unblushing description, which happily did not always escape unpunished." The Reviewer then proceeds to give a list in alphabetical form of the eleven banks in the Mofussil, including the Uncovenanted Service Bank of Agra and the Himalayan Bank of Mussoorie that have lately failed, with the amounts of their capital and reserved funds taken from the most recently published accounts. The nine solvent Banks represent a capital of about 50 lakhs, of which only a little over four-fifths are paid up; and all these institutions, judging by the dividends they pay, are in a flourishing condition. The sphere of their operations extends from Dacca to Quetta, and from Kashmir to Ajmere, and the head-quarters of one of them is in Madras. They put dividends on the paid up share-capital, at rates varying from 9 to 15 per cent. a year, besides placing large amounts annually in "Reserve." The Reviewer pertinently asks—"How is this done?" And he thus answers the question:—"There is no mystery about it; besides their share-capital the nine Banks have over 357 lakhs of rupees to trade with, entrusted to them for that purpose by a confiding public. 357 lakhs lent out at (say) 10¼ per cent., produce over 35 lakhs a year, from which must be deducted interest at (say) 5 per cent. paid for fixed deposits amounting to nearly 298 lakhs, leaving (say) 20 lakhs of gross profit to cover expenses, losses and net profit. Supposing only 4 lakhs of rupees were left, out of the 20 lakhs of gross profit, there would be a 10 per cent. dividend for the shareholders in the 40 lakhs of paid-up capital. Thus the share-capital might be entirely lost, and still, so long as their credit remained good, the nine Banks ought to continue to pay dividends averaging 10 per cent. In other words, the depositors allow the Banks to make a net profit of 10 per cent. on their capital, out of their 300 lakhs of deposits, in consideration, in the case of depositors for fixed periods, of being paid 5 per cent. as their share of profit on what they deposit. This is not strictly correct, because the Scotch practice of paying a moderate rare of interest on floating deposits is to some extent coming into vogue in India, but it gives a rough explanation of how the Banks manage to divide an even higher rate of interest than they charge for lending out their share-capital. The foregoing passage, which fully explains how the nine Banks, of which the Reviewer speaks, manage to pay high dividends on their paid-up capital, and at the same time to place large amounts annually in "Reserve," should be carefully studied by all persons who are in any way connected with these institutions. If the explanation is not correct, the Directors of the nine Banks concerned should lose no time in telling the public how matters really stand.

There is, we fear, great truth in the Reviewer's observation that the early history of some Mafussil Banks cannot bear the light. He points out that they have been founded, not by capitalists, but by men destitute of capital, or who wanted other men's capital to trade or speculate with. Such men do not find, under the Indian Companies' Act, any difficulty to carry out their dishonest intentions. They have only to sign a short "Memorandum of Association." Seven persons might sign such a Memorandum. The stamp duty is only fifteen rupees, and the fees to be paid for registration are not heavy, amounting to Rs. 125 for a capital of one lakh, Rs. 175 for two lakhs and Rs. 50 more for every additional lakh up to ten lakhs, after which the fee is only Rs. 10 per lakh. As the promoters need not take more than one share each and as the value of the shares might be fixed at one rupee each, the initial outlay of the seven promoters of a Bank need not exceed Rs. 200, which sum they can very easily raise among themselves. The subsequent *modus operandi* of the promoters is thus described by the Reviewer.—"The promoters of the Bank, of course, at first either act as Directors or appoint Directors from among themselves; and this is a reason for limiting the number of subscribers of the Memorandum of Association to seven, the legal minimum. The allotment of shares and the collection of deposits then goes on merrily, the Directors and Managers having, of course, the first right—where might is right—to the use of the shareholders' and depositors' money, and the shareholders, who are friends of the Directors, being next allowed to share in the spoil. High rates are, of course, given for deposits; and, as an additional attraction, a substantial dividend is declared for the first half year after the Bank is started. In one case which we could mention the first dividend was provided for from savings on the amount set apart out of capital for preliminary expenses. The rate of dividend is worked up as quickly as possible to 9 or 10 per cent. per annum; and henceforth it is a law not to be broken, that whatever losses may be incurred, the rate of dividend shall fall below that. A Reserve Fund is started as soon as it decently can be, and the increase of this by leaps and bounds depends quite as much upon the losses as upon the profits. Interest upon bad and doubtful debts owing to the Bank is regularly charged to the debtors and as regularly taken credit for in the Profit and Loss Account, the transfer of unrealised interest to the Reserve Fund, when the Divisible Balance comes to be distributed, is easy, and so is the payment of dividend out of capital. By-and-by decency requires that some tangible security should appear in the Balance sheet to represent the large sums carried to the Reserve Fund—and an entry is made to Government Securities. Perhaps some securities really are bought, and perhaps also the auditors may see them once or twice; but the Manager thinks it folly to be earning only 4 or 4½ per cent. on the money which the securities represent; so he sends them to the Calcutta Bank which acts as the Agent of the Mafussil Bank, borrows on them at the market rate, and then lends out the money at 10 or 12 per cent. on perhaps very insufficient security." This being the case, it is not at all surprising that the Bank should soon suffer losses, and when there is run on it, the startling discovery made that the Reserve Fund exists no where, and that the securities on which advances have been made are unsatisfactory or insufficient. Most of the securities consist merely of policies of insurance on the life of the debtor, who has become insolvent, and the Bank must pay the premium necessary to maintain the policy in force, or allow it to drop and thus lose even the hope of realising a portion of the debt after, perhaps, twenty or thirty years. Debtors who can pay are then called upon to liquidate their debts, and they naturally give out that the Bank must be in a bad way. The consequence is that the depositors get alarmed and begin to withdraw their money. Strenuous efforts are made to meet these demands, and then comes the inevitable crash.

The real position of such Banks cannot, of course, be long concealed from the public if its accounts are annually subjected to a searching audit by competent and honest men. The Reviewer speaks nothing but the truth when he says that the minor Indian Banks generally appoint shareholders to be auditors; but even when they go outside the Bank for auditors, they do not get competent and trustworthy men for the important work to be done. Professional accountants, other than the servants of companies and private firms, do not exist in the Mofussil; but even if such men be available, they may not possess sufficient knowledge of Banking and of the affairs of the Bank whose accounts they audit, to become useful auditors. Or, they may not be actuated by an honest desire to do the best they can for the shareholders and depositors of the Bank. The Reviewer says:—"But if a Manager does not want a searching audit, and cannot find a subservient tool, he may get the share-holders to change the auditors of the bank as frequently as possible, so that, being new to the work, they may be the more easily hoodwinked. During the examination of the late Manager of the Uncovenanted Service Bank, Limited, now in liquidation, before the High Court of the North-Western Provinces, Mr. Justice Straight took down the names of auditors, who had acted in each half-year from the end of 1866 to June 1889, and it appeared that about 32 different persons, apparently all share-holders, had acted in those 45 half-years, and that though certain persons were frequently reappointed, they always had an interval of office, so that there was no continuity of work. The thread of many an account would be lost during the intervals, for if an auditor being re-appointed wished to follow the clue he held before, he would be obliged to go back to where he had left off, and to go through the accounts of the intervening half-years, for which he would be in no way responsible, as well as those he was appointed to audit, and this could hardly be expected of him. In this case, however, the Manager denied that he ever had a hand in the election of the Auditors. The shareholders selected them. In the case of another Bank, it was provided that there should be only one Auditor, and that he should be elected only once a year; but here change was avoided as much as possible, and ultimately the force of asking the shareholders to re-elect the favoured individual was abandoned and he sat tight till he died."

The state of things existing in connection with Indian Banks revealed by the writer in the *Calcutta Review*, from an intimate personal knowledge of the subjects, should be remedied without delay. And in the concluding part of his article the Reviewer makes certain suggestions for reform. He rightly holds that something should be done for the protection of depositors for fixed periods. He admits that they put their money into a Bank on the unde

standing that it is to be invested or speculated with, according to the powers of the Bank and the rules laid down ; and that they risk it accordingly. But all right-minded persons will agree with him in thinking that Joint-Stock Banks should allow their deposit-creditors to appoint, at the Bank's expense, a professional Auditor to act along with the Auditor or Auditors appointed by the shareholders. Government might also attach to each Provincial Registrar of Joint-Stock Companies one or more official Inspectors, who should be present and take part in the audit of several Joint-Stock Banks, every half-year, and at other times go the round of the Banks, make themselves familiar with their books and affairs, keep their eye upon things generally, and make reports to Government both periodically and when occasions might necessitate them. These valuable suggestions demand careful and attentive consideration at the hands of Government.

WARDS' AND ATTACHED ESTATES.

THE management of Wards' and attached estates by the Board of Revenue during the year 1890-91 has formed the subject of a recent Resolution of the Bengal Government. The Board's report was punctually submitted and the Resolution takes very favourable notice of the excellence of the form in which it is prepared.

The number of private estates under the management of the Board has decreased from 157 in 1887-88 to 139 in the year under review. Of these latter 69 were Wards' estates and 70 were attached, encumbered and trust estates. The arrear demand of the revenue and cesses due to Government amounted to only Rs. 19,816 ; the current demand was Rs. 52,67,747 ; of these amounts Rs. 51,84,695 were paid. The balances were comparatively small, though higher than those of the previous year. The Lieutenant-Governor would not accept the excuse of want of funds. He would like it to be remembered that the Government revenue has the first claim on an estate and must be fully satisfied before the money is diverted to the other objects of the Trust Fund.

The collections of rents and cesses due to superior landlords exceeded the current demand and the balances on these accounts were less than those of last year. Still the amount is over 10 per cent of the current demand. His Honor does not understand why these balances should appear at all, and why they are not paid into Court, leaving the claimants to settle their own affairs.

Considering that the important work of the managers of Wards' estates consists in the collections of rents and cesses due to the estates, the figures for the last year show that the collections have not been creditable. It hardly speaks of good and efficient management if the collections do not even equal the current demand, and if the balances be made to decrease, as they have been, only by extensive remissions. The failure to collect properly is most conspicuous in the Patna and Orissa Divisions. Of the enormous balances amounting to Rs. 74,24,535 some 16 lakhs of Rupees are classified as irrecoverable, 2¾ lakhs doubtful and disputed, over 4 lakhs doubtful but not disputed, and 50 lakhs are good and in process of recovery. The Lieutenant Governor strictly enjoins that every effort should be made to realise such amounts as are likely to be recovered and the bad debts remitted.

The actual cost of management, including the manager's pay, establishment, travelling allowances and contingencies, amounted to 7 per cent. on the current rent and cess demand of the estates. The total charges including the amount spent on survey and settlement, and the construction and repairs of cutchery buildings, came to 9 per cent. on the same demand. There was a slight excess of the charges of the year over the receipts. The Lieutenant-Governor has submitted to the Government of India proposals for the levy of a proper charge for the supervision of the Court of Wards' affairs, which take up a serious proportion of the time of the higher revenue authorities. However well intentioned these proposals might be, there can be no doubt they will tell hardly upon some of these estates which are already in an encumbered condition. The main financial results of the year in all the estates taken collectively are that against a total receipt of Rs. 1,44,07,459 there have been total disbursements to the amount of Rs. 1,26,30,696 leaving a cash balance of Rs. 17,76,763 at the end of 1890 91. This is higher than the cash balance at the end of the previous year which amounted to Rs. 15,93,296, thus showing some advance in the financial administration.

An interesting account has been given of what has been done by the Board to manage and improve seven out of the eight estates, which after having been in its hands for several years, were released from management during 1890-91. In most of them the rent rolls have been considerably raised, large amounts of debts have been paid off, important improvements have been effected, and the surplus and cash balance at close has been considerable. Amongst the principal estates still under the management of the Court of Wards, 12 have been classed as surplus estates and 8 as deficit estates. With regard to the surplus estates, the Lieutenant-Governor notices with dissatisfaction the small amounts spent on survey and settlement operations. He regards it as essential to good management in wards' or other private estates, as much as in the case of Government estates, that the rent-roll should be carefully prepared, accessible, and accurately maintained. He also remarks that much more improvements might have been effected in these estates than was done in the last or in preceding years. He would prefer permanent improvements being made on a large scale to the "maintenance in efficient condition of estates, buildings, and other immovable property." There is time during the ensuing cold weather for considerable works to be undertaken if the necessary orders are issued without delay.

During the year under report 10,475 certificates were filed, so that inclusive of those pending from last year, there ware 32,142 certificates for disposal. These numbers are the lowest for the last three years, and, as 18,438 were disposed of, the balance has been reduced to 18,704 cases pending. The Board consider that the number disposed of during the year should have been larger and attribute the delay to the inaction of the certificate officers. The Lieutenant-Governor is rather inclined to think that in wards' estates the responsibility for watching their progress and realising the demands as soon as possible should lie on the managers of the estates. The practice sometimes followed of filing a large number of certificates against defaulters and then keeping them hanging over their heads without proceeding further is a strongly objectionable one and must be discontinued. We are also told that the question of the applicability of the certificate procedure to demands on account of the Court of Wards is now under consideration and the answer would turn mainly on the point whether the demands can be ascertained easily and accurately by reference to records kept with the regularity of public records. The essential requirement is that the rent-rolls of estates should be properly framed and maintained, so that the debtor may be previously cognisant of the demand which he has neglected to pay in due course. And so long as this requirement is not fulfilled the direct and summary process of the certificate procedure cannot but give rise to serious difficulties and hardships.

The Board's opinion on the condition of the tenantry in the various estates is generally satisfactory. In the Soojamoota estate, however, the long standing dispute with the Burdwan Raj has not been settled. In some villages in the Dakhin Shabazpore estate the tenants are reported to be refractory. In certain estates in the Patna Division and in some villages in Chumparon and Mozufferpore the tenants showed disinclination to pay fair rent, and combined with considerable success to prevent realisations under the certificate procedure. The conversion of a large number of tenants to Christianity caused friction in six estates of the Lohardugga District.

Commenting on the subject of the large accumulations in Wards' estates and the comparatively small amounts spent on improvements, His Honor observes that he does not object to the Board's rule that a ward should have, on attaining majority, a sufficiently large cash balance to relieve him of any temptation to press hardly upon his ryots or change the Court's system of management, but he shares the feeling which has often been expressed that large cash balances or investments in Government Securities should not be allowed to accumulate in an estate as they create a great danger and offer a great temptation to the ward on his attaining majority. His Honor would advise some portion of the accumulations to be spent on works of permanent advantage to the estates.

The salient point which has struck the Lieutenant-Governor in reviewing the Board's report, is the very limited amount of success which the revenue authorities are able to attain in the way of effecting improvements in these estates. It is, of course, impossible for a collector to acquire the minute local knowledge which is necessary in order to decide where wells, tanks, *bunds*, roads, markets, model villages, drainages cuts or other improvements should be undertaken, but this is all the more reason for insisting that the manager should acquire, and utilize, when acquired, such knowledge. When so much depends on the managers it is necessary that they should be chosen with great care and their responsibility for good work clearly defined and maintained.

MR. PINCOTT ON INDIAN AFFAIRS.

UNDER the somewhat sensational title of "Discontent in India," Mr. Frederick Pincott recently contributed a thoughtful article to the pages of the *National Review*. Mr. Pincott is a staunch Conservative and withal a sincere and earnest well-wisher of the Indian people. We commend this fact to those of our friends who have persuaded themselves to believe that the Conservatives cannot be expected to take up the cause of Indian reform and that, therefore, they must identify themselves with the Liberals and make India the sport of party politics in England. In his article under notice, Mr. Pincott commenced with a reference to the attitude of the Conservative party generally towards Indian affairs, and he did not hesitate to say that their attitude of indifference would not only result "in serious damage to conservatism as a political party, but would prove detrimental to the interests of England as a nation." He observed : "Every person in authority is responsible for acts permitted as well as for acts committed ; and want of due consideration is no bar to an accusation of wrong doing. In the case of India, Conservatives have no more to reproach themselves than the members of other political parties. All have been painfully neglectful of India ; and all have thoughtlessly allowed abuses to be perpetrated there which could never have been tolerated in the light of public opinion. Evil has been there wrought decade after decade by a neglect more blighting in all its ill effects than positive intentional wrong. All the political parties and ministerial and Parliamentary leaders can share in the blame incurred by the neglect—the want—the want of thought—of by-gone years." This is perfectly true. Both the great political parties of England have lamentably neglected their duties to the voiceless and helpless people of India. When Mr. George Holyoake visited the United States a few years ago, he asked an intelligent American what was the difference in his country between Republicans and Democrats. The observant Yankee replied—"They profess different principles, but they do both the same thing." This remark applies with full force to the Conservatives and Liberals of England in so far at least as dumb India is concerned. Experience has proved to demonstration the fact that the British Parliament never does a thing because it is just, but because it cannot be helped.

Mr. Pincott took a very sensible and sound view of the National Congress movement when

he said that the more intelligent section of the Indian people, having learnt the lesson of combination from their English rulers were now uniting in order to secure the privileges which they felt to be their due. The movement he points out, is headed by those who have sufficient discrimination to understand both the strong and weak points of English administration in India. "This intelligent and far-seeing section of the community," writes Mr. Pincott, "is anxious to purify and modify English Official life, in order that English authority may be secured by the willing support of the people, and their own interests may be advanced thereby as well as the prosperity of the population at large. Their organization is now so complete and far-reaching that success on their part is assured. In the attainment of that success they are meeting with active support from a great many Englishmen of reforming tendencies, who see in this uprising of Indian political aspiration a repetition of the popular upheavals which win their sympathies in Europe. It is, however, a mistake on their part to imagine that Indians have any relish for what are known as democratic institutions. The natural conservatism of the Indian people will always keep them within limits which, to the Radical, will be disappointingly narrow. It is also a mistake on the part of Indian reformers to throw themselves so unreservedly on the arms of extreme men, whose objects and principles are those which Indians could never conscientiously adopt or pursue. This double hallucination results, of course, mutual misapprehension; the present mutual attraction being caused by the sympathy shown on the one side, and the suitability of means to end on the other. * * * The progress made under the ægis of political opponents has, however, still further prejudiced Conservatives against the movement. Finding men against whom they are for other reasons arrayed, become conspicuous advocates of Indian reform they deem the whole thing discredited by reason of its advocates. In this way the breach widens, and we now find the Conservatives of India and the Conservatives of England in antagonism to each other, while the Radical party is allowed to become the sole champions of constitutional Government of India. Mr. Mill's taunt that the Conservative is the stupid party will be fully deserved if this state of things continues." There is a great deal of truth in these observations, which should receive the careful consideration of Indian reformers as well as of the Conservative party generally. There are no good grounds for supposing that the Conservatives are opposed to all reform. It should be carefully borne in mind that Parliamentary Reform in England was a Tory idea, and that we are indebted to the Conservatives for Her Gracious Majesty's Proclamation of 1858 which is regarded justly as our *Magna Charta*. The second Reform Bill, of 1867, which greatly extended the suffrage, was the work of the Conservatives. Mr. Pincott appeals to the Conservative party to place itself at the head of reforming movements, and we earnestly hope that this appeal will be largely responded to.

All right-minded Englishmen, whether Conservative or Liberal, will, if they study the subject attentively, be convinced of the necessity of Indian Reform. Mr. Pincott remarks: "Long-continued indifference has allowed the administrative machinery of India to get out of working order. Freedom from effective check has permitted a spirit of high-handedness to aggravate the restiveness caused by the growing enlightenment of the country, just in proportion to the increasing capability of the people, and the increasing knowledge of their rights as British subjects—so has increased the desire of the ruling class to resist those impulses and to prevent their exercise. Natural as is the growth of this antagonism of interests, it is nevertheless most unfortunate in its incidents, and has given rise to a plentiful crop of dangerously irritating episodes. There is probably not a district in India, or any section of the people, which is not smarting under some special grievance, in addition to the universal oppressions of the police, the practical denial of justice by reason of its expensiveness, the method of manipulating juries and municipalities, the inexperience or worse of the magistracy, the severe taxation, the extravagant official salaries, the invidious legal distinctions created in favour of Europeans, the irresponsibility for official acts, the appropriation of India's rule, the despotic character of the Government and the haughty disregard of public feeling. These and a crowd of other general and special grievances have necessarily given birth to grave dissatisfaction which demands immediate attention and careful handling." There can be no doubt whatever that the Indian people have many well-founded grievances which demand redress, though we do not agree with the writer about *all* the grievances he mentions. Some of these grievances are general and some are confined to particular tracts. But, the Indian bureaucrat has pursuaded himself that the system of administration which exists in this country is the most perfect that the world has ever seen; and it is feared that when such a conviction prevails in Anglo-Indian Officialdom, there is little hope that the Government of India will do the needful. May the fears prove groundless, and the Government, which is solely responsible for the good administration of the country, undertake the task of redressing these grievances and see that justice is done to the Princes and people of India.

ST. ANDREW'S DINNER.

THE speeches at St. Andrew's Dinner this year were all suited to the occasion. They were not expected to be "epoch-making" speeches, and very properly they confined themselves within legitimate limits. They were more or less colourless, but that ought not to be a matter of complaint. The Hon'ble Mr. Mackay in proposing the toast of the 'Land we live in' said little or nothing of the inhabitants of the land. We cannot blame him for making no reference to the people. The chances are that if he had said anything there would have been no end of adverse criticism. To our mind the proposer of the toast acted very wisely in not making remarks which might not have been palatable to his critics. His Excellency the Viceroy also said nothing which could give offence to any class of the community. He has enunciated no new policy, it is true, but he has clearly expressed his opinions on almost all the important questions of the day.

The integrity of the Native States will be respected, and their Self-Government preserved. The Maharaja of Kashmir has been taught a salutary lesson, and precaution has been taken to guard him from going astray. There is a prospect of serious scarcity in the different provinces of India, but the public may rest assured that no effort will be spared to afford adequate relief. Increase of population ought not to be a source of anxiety. The schemes of emigration which have been organized will relieve to a considerable extent the pressure of the population upon the existing means of subsistence. The border defences ought to be strengthened, and no expenditure upon them ought to be grudged. The maintenance of financial equilibrium depends upon vagaries over which Indian statesmen can exercise no control, and the calculations of the Finance Minister may any day be set at naught by extraneous influences. Direct taxation cannot be too severely condemned, and the Income-tax is an odious tax, but is a necessary evil, and will be abolished, as soon as the Finance Minister sees his way to it. The salt-tax and rice-tax are equally odious, but their claims to abolition should have greater weight. This is in substance what the Viceroy has said about the various questions which occupy public attention at present. He has not committed himself to any novel or distinct line of policy, and it is unreasonable to expect that he should do so. With considerable skill he has avoided touching upon debatable ground, and he has succeeded in accomplishing the most difficult task of satisfying all parties.

Speaking of 'the health of the land we live in,' he has very properly refused to issue an official bulletin. His reference to Doctors disagreeing about the diagnosis of the ailments under which the land suffers is very happy, and those who choose to read between the lines will be greatly amused by the hits he has given to the self-constituted Doctors who quarrel among themselves and work for their own glorification. The passage is so rich that we cannot resist the temptation of quoting it.

As to the health of the land we live in, I hardly like to issue an official bulletin. I am not her only doctor, and my diagnosis might perhaps not be accepted by the rival practitioners. If, however, you ask me for an opinion, I should be disposed to say that the patient, in spite of the administration of remedies not always consistent or appropriate, has such a sound constitution that she will survive the ailments from which she occasionally suffers, as well as the somewhat fanciful and unorthodox treatment to which she sometimes has to submit, if only her doctors will not quarrel too much amongst themselves, and will be content to work with all their might and main, not for their own advancement or glorification, but for her welfare.

We reproduce the Viceroy's speech in another column.

Latest News and Notes.

SIR CHARLES and Lady Elliott returned to Calcutta on Saturday last, on the conclusion of the Behar tour.

THE Levee at the Government House on Saturday last was successful in every respect. The Viceroy looked his best, and although the crush was as great as ever, the arrangements were equal to the occasion and the ceremonial passed off without a hitch. Inspite of recent hints the new presentations were many. The list of those unavoidably absent was also heavy.

AT the last meeting of the Managing Committee of the British Indian Association it was decided to submit a Representation to Government regarding the proposed Cadastral Survey of Behar. It has also been decided to hold, at the Association Rooms, a meeting of landholders to consider the nature and scope of the proposed Survey, and to determine the lines upon which the Representation mentioned above should be made.

THE statue of the Marquis of Dufferin and Ava will be unveiled to-morrow at 5 P. M. His Excellency Lord Lansdowne will preside. A large and influential gathering is expected to be present on the occasion. The Police Notification, we understand, will be issued tomorrow morning. No carriages will be allowed to pass by the Red Road. It will be closed.

BY the express wishes of Her Majesty the Queen Empress the body guard of the Viceroy have had their head-dresses changed. The small pagri with plumes has been replaced by a handsome red dark blue and gold turban. This is a decided improvement and excellently suits the splendid physique of the men.

LADY Wenlock and her son arrived in Calcutta on Monday last and Lord Wenlock joined them on Wednesday instead of Tuesday as originally arranged. His Excellency's visit to the Viceroy is connected with important administration questions including operations for famine relief. It is not a mere pleasure trip as has been erroneously assumed in some quarters. Lord and Lady Wenlock leave for Madras on Saturday.

WE much regret to learn that her Highness the Maharani of Cooch Behar is seriously ill. Her Highness is at present at the Lily Cottage and progressing favourably under the careful treatment of Dr. McConnel.

THE Hon'ble Mr. Mackay is to be our next Sheriff. He has proved himself a worthy representative of his community in many respects and the Viceroy passed a high eulogium on his services the other day at the St. Andrew's Dinner. Though the appointment will cause disappointment and irritation in some quarters, we congratulate Mr. Mackay on the further honor that has now been bestowed on him. Mr. Orr, of the firm of Messrs. Orr, Robertson and Burton, has been appointed as Deputy Sheriff.

THE *Indian Medical Record* hears that Dr. McLeod retires early next year. Dr. Raye will then get the Professorship in Surgery and the First Surgeoncy of the College Hospital, while D. O'Brien, of Darjiling, will take Dr. Raye's place.

A CONFERENCE to consider the whole question of volunteering will soon assemble in Calcutta. The successive Congresses have been repeatedly putting forward the claims of natives to volunteering and it is to be expected that the Conference will take up this question also. It is satisfactory to learn in this concern that high military authorities like Sir James Dormer, the Commander-in-Chief of Madras, has expressed himself favourably regarding native volunteering for which Sir James has earned the thanks of the community.

DEATH has put an end to the troubles of Maharaja Sura Chundra and he has not had to enjoy long the humble pittance of Rs. 250 a month which the British Government had assigned to him. A condition of the stipend was that the Prince would have to live in Bindaban, and newspaper paragraphs had recently been put into circulation intimating that unless the journey was soon undertaken the stipend would be forfeited. The unfortunate refugee, whose health utterly broke down, under heavy calamities, was suffering long from fever and dysentry and his condition was growing critical every day so that he could not possibly move out. He has now forfeited the stipend in a way that will not evoke unfriendly criticism. He had been always protesting against the usurpation and asserted that he never abdicated. He, however, accepted things in a loyal spirit and submitted to the decree of the Suzerain power without demur. His death took place at 8-30 A.M on Thursday, and the Viceroy in the spirit of kindly courtesy and sympathy that distinguishes all his Lordship's actions, sent the Superintendent of the Tosakhana to look after the cremation. The relatives of the deceased Prince desired to take his body to Navadwip. But as this could not be arranged the cremation took place at the Nimtolah Burning Ghat with becoming ceremonies.

THE Kidderpur Docks are expected to be opened on the 1st of January, and His Excellency the Viceroy will perform the ceremony.

THE Government cases not having concluded the Diamond case will not be taken up to-day as announced before. Besides Mr. Inverarity, the Hon'ble Mr. Rattigan of the Punjab bar has also been retained for the defence. While the prosecution will be conducted by the Advocate-General and Messrs. Woodroffe, Jackson and Dunne.

THE *Bangabasi* case is over. It was the first on the calendar last Monday and Mr. Pugh appearing for the Advocate General and addressing the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Wilson, said:—

I wish to mention the first case which appears as a *remanet* from the last Sessions,—the Empress against Jogendro Chunder Bose, Kristo Chunder Banerjee Brojoraj Banerjee, and Aroonodoy Roy. This case is a prosecution under section 124 A of the Penal Code,—the first case that has been instituted under that section. Since the last Sessions the accused have approached the Government. They have expressed their regret and sorrow for the language and tone of those articles, and they have followed it up with articles that are expressive of extreme apology. They have promised that no such articles shall be published in future. They have given a guarantee that they will act so by joining an Association which has been formed by the members of the Native Press for the purpose of controlling the members of that Association. Having regard to the position and circumstances of the case, the Government, being actuated by no vindictive feeling whatsoever in the matter, does not desire to pursue the prosecution, and I have been requested by my learned friend, the Advocate General, to inform your Lordship that on behalf of Her Majesty the Queen Empress, he does not desire further to proceed with the charge. I enter a *nolle prosequi*.

The case was accordingly withdrawn. Mr. Pugh's pointed reference to the Press Association which supported the prayer of the *Bangabasi* for withdrawal of the proceedings, is significant in view of the carping criticism in certain quarters in regard to its action. The Association is grateful to have its importance recognised by Government.

THE Original Side appeals of the High Court will be heard on the termination of the 5th Criminal Sessions. The Original Appellate Court has not sat long, but the board is not a very heavy one.

THE following has been added to rule 1 of the Rules, dated the 10th October, 1891, published in the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 21st idem, for the examination of candidates for appointment in the Subordinate Executive Service to be held in March 1892:—"No candidate, who is already serving under another Government, will be allowed to compete, unless he obtains the previous permission of that Government."

BABU RAMKALI CHOWDHURI of Beneras has been appointed a member of the Allahabad Legislative Council in the place of the late Babu Birressur Mitter. We congratulate the Council on the appointment, for one better could hardly be made. Quiet and unobtrusive in his manners Babu Ramkali's acquirements are great and he ought to make a thoroughly successful councillor though he belongs by no means to the progressive school.

A SERIOUS financial crisis has arisen at Melbourne owing to the suspension of three Banks, including the Standard Bank of Australia, and of three building societies. It is believed, however, that the worst is now over. The Government has rushed through all its stages in Parliament a Bill giving protection to depositors.

IT is reported that Emin Pasha on reaching the equatorial province was warmly welcomed by his former troops, and he is said to have now under his command nine thousand men armed with rifles.

FROM the report on the operation of the Savings Banks during the year 1890-91 it appears that the Presidency Bank, Calcutta, shows an increase both in the number of accounts and the amount of balance, but the Madras and Bombay Banks show a decrease in both respects, which is assigned to the transfer of accounts to the Post Office Banks. The number of Post Office Banks as well as the number of depositors and the amount of balance in them were more than those of the previous year by 105,50,272 and Rs. 47,70,652, respectively.

THE Commission to enquire into and report upon the working of the Deccan Agriculturists' Relief Act is to be constituted as follows, und will assemble at Poona about the 15th instant:—President: Mr. J. W. Neill, Judicial Commissioner, Central Provinces. Members:—The Hon. Rao Bahadur Krishnaji Lakshman Nulkar, C. I. E.; Mr. C. M. Rivaz, Commissioner, Punjab; Mr. H. F. Evans, Judge, North Western Provinces; Mr. Stephen Hammick, Judge, Bombay Presidency; Mr. F. S. P. Lely, Collector and Magistrate, Bombay Presidency. Secretary: Mr. L. A. S. Porter.

THE Hamilton Season at the Corinthian Theatre has not been as successful as it might and ought to have been. Mr. Hamilton took his benefit on Friday last, when, however, a bumper house rewarded his zeal. A number of amateurs and professionals lent their services on the occasion. There will be some Shakesperean representations this week as announced before, and Mr. Miln takes his farewell benefit on Saturday.

THE Egyptian Budget for the financial year of 1892 shows a surplus of half a million sterling. The estimates provide for an annual reduction of £200,000 in land tax, and of an expenditure of £5,000 for the suppression of slavery in the Red Sea, and of £50,000 for the sanitation of Cairo.

THE order prohibiting the export of linseed from Russia has been withdrawn. This may be taken as indicating relaxation of the scarcity.

IN view of the disturbances in China which are assuming serious proportions every day the British position there has to be materially strengthened. A Royal Warrant has accordingly been issued authorizing the formation of an Indian Native Infantry Regiment for service in Hongkong. Advices from Pekin state that the revolt has been overrated. It is now declared that the rebels only number some fifteen hundred. The rebels in the first instance defeated a force of four thousand Imperial troops. Six thousand men were then sent from Tientsin to reinforce the Government troops. Particulars of the rebellion show that the situation is very critical. Two serious revolts have broken out in the north of the Great Wall. In one case the rebels have occupied a town north-east of Kinchow and in the other the district of Takou, north of Kaiping, is entirely in their hands. The Mandarins in the district of Takou arranged with the rebel leaders to spare the native population, giving them license to attack the Christian inhabitants. The most fiendish atrocities are said to have ensued. Children were gashed about and roasted, the nuns were outraged and then brained, and the Belgian priests had their hearts and tongues torn out. The Pekin Government is thoroughly alarmed at the dimensions the rebellion has assumed, whilst the Europeans are furious. Sir John Walsham, British Minister at Pekin, telegraphs confirming the news of the mass cre of Christians in the district of Takou, but says that only Native Christians were butchered, and that no Europeans were among the victims. Despatches received from Pekin state that the Imperial troops engaged with the rebels in the east of Kinchow on Friday and Saturday last, and defeated them with heavy loss. Five hundred rebels were killed including their leader; the other rebel force is also reported to have been defeated at Jeho.

MR. Goschen, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, addressing a special meeting of bankers and merchants, explained his scheme for increasing the stock of gold in the Bank of England by the issue of one-pound notes after a total note issue of £38,000,000 had been reached, On the present conditions four-fifths would be issued against gold, and the remaining fifth against securities held by the Bank. If this largely increased the stock of gold, Mr. Goschen proposed to relax the Bank's Charter to enable it in times of crisis to issue notes against securities on condition of the Bank paying the Government a high rate of interest thereon. The scheme, the Chancellor explained, was not compulsory, and its success would depend upon the popularity of one-pound notes. The other scheme for the issue of ten-shilling silver notes had been dropped, but he said that if foreign mints offered free coinage of silver the Bank of England would be invited to enforce the provision in its Charter, allowing it to hold a fifth of its bullion in silver. Mr. Goschen's scheme is approved by the Stock Exchange, but the opinion expressed by bankers is unfavourable.

GENERAL Caprivi, the Imperial Chancellor of Germany, has declared in the Reichstag that the visit of the French fleet to Cronstadt had made no change in the position between France, Russia and the Triple Alliance. The Czar's intentions, he was assured, were most peaceful. He considered that the present arming of the Powers would long continue and that peace Congresses would be futile. The assimilation of Alsace and Lorraine with the German Empire, he said, are steadily progressing. But why are peace Congresses to be futile if peace is so well assured all round? Perhaps in the strength of the preparations is the best guarantee for peace. But peace protestations have been a little too loud and frequent of late. It is notified that commercial treaties have been finally concluded between Germany, Austria, Italy, Switzerland and Belgium, forming virtually a Central European Zollverein.

PARLIAMENT has been summoned to meet for the despatch of business on the 9th of February. It will have had a long recess. Mr. Gladstone will start for Biarritz about the middle of December, and after Christmas will proceed on a visit to San Raphæl.

RAILWAY accidents are getting unpleasantly frequent now-a-days, and although the loss of lives in all cases is not great, the loss of property and public inconvenience, as well as the consequent alarm is serious enough. The Howrah accident, which we reported last week, might well have been prevented by timely precautions. The results of enquiry as well as the details of enquiry in these cases ought to be accessible to the public. In some cases the loss of life is great. A serious accident occurred on Saturday on the North-Western Railway, 80 miles from Lahore. A mail train and a goods train collided early on the morning. The engines and ten carriages were smashed; forty men, including two railway servants, were killed outright, and over 100 passengers were injured, many seriously.

DESPITE repeated warnings from the authorities against the renewal of Socialist demonstrations, a meeting, attended by about two thousand persons, was held at Chelsea on Friday before last. Mounted police charged the crowd, and several persons were injured. Fourteen arrests were made. Another phase of Socialism has developed in Germany. A Berlin journal reports that the Emperor William, addressing a body of recruits recently at Potsdam, told them that the oath of allegiance they had taken meant that they gave themselves to him body and soul, and that if the Socialist agitation compelled an order to be given to shoot down their relatives, even their parents, they must obey the order.

THE *Times* states that Russian purchases of silver continue to be made, but with the intention of providing a subsidiary coinage, and not for the purpose of establishing a silver standard. The prophecy of the week before last was therefore ill founded. The leading textile manufacturers in Lancashire have formed a union with the object of pressing upon Government to reform the monetary system and recognise a silver standard. Government would have been glad enough to meet the difficulty of its own motion if it could. Is the Union in a position to offer a practical solution?

WE have to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of a copy of Bett's Indian Diary and Text-Book for 1892 published by the Calcutta Central Press Company. The Diary is of Foolscap size, 3 days in a page, with only English dates. The get up and finish of the Diary is very creditable to the publishers. The Diary contains a deal of useful information for merchants, bankers, tradespeople and private families. The price is only one rupee a copy.

THE first Vidyasagar Memorial has been erected at Bhagalpur. The foundation-stone of the Vidyasagar Sanskrit School was laid on Wednesday by Mr. C. C. Quinn, Commissioner of the Bhagalpur Division, in the presence of a large gathering of European ladies and gentlemen and the leading Native gentlemen of the town. The school will be under the supervision of the Behar Sanskrit Sanjiban Sabha.

REUTER telegraphs that the *Times*, fully endorses the views of Lord Lansdowne with regard to abstaining from meddling with the independence of Native States, and says that the Imperial Government merely asks Native rulers to conform to Western ideas of humane government. The days of leaving the frontier of India unguarded are gone, but it is not likely, the article says, that Russia will be able to attack India soon. This, we take it, is in reference to the observations of the Viceroy at the St. Andrew's dinner.

A GLIMPSE of high life in England is at times to be obtained through the Divorce Court. The Countess of Russell, who is suing for judicial separation from her husband, testified in Court to persistent acts of terrorism and cruelty by the Earl in forcing her to do menial offices and degrading her before the servants. The Countess in her evidence also hinted at graver offences committed by her husband. During the cross-examination of the plaintiff it was suggested that she was subject to hysteria, and that the discord between husband and wife was owing to the debts which the latter had contracted. Sir Charles Russell, who appears as Counsel for Earl Russell, declared that the story related by the Countess was untrue, and that the charges which she had made were nothing but an hysterical delusion on her part. Earl Russell in his examination also gave a different complexion to the incidents of cruelty related by the Countess, and declared that his wife was of an excitable temper, and was sometimes violent. Sir Edward Clarke, Counsel for the plaintiff, withdrew the charges hinted at in her evidence.

MR. BALFOUR, First Lord of the Treasury, addressing a meeting at Huddersfield, on Tuesday, said that the time was now ripe to grant Ireland as wide a measure of local Government as obtained in Great Britain, and that the country would not be justified in refusing the measure. But that would not be Home rule, even if the country were of Mr. Balfour's opinion, though it is doubtful whether his colleagues and party would share it heartily. The Home rulers even in their dismembered condition would not be content with any half measures.

IT is satisfactory to note that in response to the appeal of the Standing Committee election of delegates for the forthcoming Congress is making rapid progress everywhere. Fault has been found with the circular of the Committee in having in somewhat of a barefaced manner called for numerical success. There is nothing wrong in this plain speaking, so far as one can see, for the country is certainly not yet ripe for spontaneous action to any large extent and a certain amount of what is called wire-pulling is needed everywhere in connection with political demonstrations as in fact with everything else in life. Wire-pulling, as the phrase goes, is nothing but proper organisation and some central body or individual has certainly to see to it.

A CROWDED meeting of the Northern Metropolitian Electorate Division was held at the Albert Hall on Saturday last to elect delegates for the Congress. Babus Kally Churn Bannerjee, Surendranath Bannerjee and others spoke on the occasion and the chair was taken by Raja Peary Mohun Mukerjee C. S. I.

WE are glad that after all Madras sends the President for the next National Congress. Bengal and Bombay have had their turn and the elevation of the President elect Hon'ble Mr. Subramanya Iyer to the High Court Bench, had at one time made it necessary for the Committee to look for a president elsewhere. Rai Bahadur Anund Charlu, Pleader of the Madras High Court, has been offered and accepted the Presidentship. We have no doubt the selection will commend itself to the different Standing Committees.

IT is satisfactory to hear progress reported of the Congress arrangements. The *Advocate* says:—

"Mr. A. O. Hume reached Nagpore on the 19th ultimo, and we are glad to learn that our Nagpore friends have left very little undone. They have got just close to the Railway Station a large tract of land rent free, called Lall Baug. The Telegraph and Post Offices are close to it, so is the most popular portion of the city. On this tract the Reception Committee has made temporary houses, which will afford room for more than 1,500 delegates. In the centre is Congress Pandal, sufficient to hold from 5 to 6,000 delegates and visitors. Thus the Committee will save a great deal from carriage hire, while more work will be done as the delegates of different provinces will more frequently see one another. Then since Allahabad Congress an innovation was made of purchasing 4,000 chairs from Australia, we are pleased to note that our Nagpur friends have sent no order to Australia, and have purchased their supply from the town. Arrangements for boarding will be at the choice of the delegates. On payment of some fee they will be supplied with food by the Reception Committee, or they will make the purchase in the Congress camp marked. As far as the arrangements are concerned, we are glad to learn that these are very satisfactory, and we think that Mr. Hume's idea of having a big Congress camp has been realised. Such attempts were made at Allahabad, but we succeeded only to a certain extent, while we are told that our Nagpur friends will excell us all in housing of the delegates."

IT is stated that as a result of the Viceroy's visit to Cashmere a fresh reconnaissance has been ordered of the Northern route for a Railway, by way of Abbottabad. This, it is said, would be as much a strategical as a commercial line. Mr. J. R. Bell is now examining the country about the Kishanganga river, with a view to seeing if an alignment in that direction is possible. It is stated that the Secretary of State has sanctioned the construction of a chord line from Bareilly to Moradabad. The cost is practically to be borne by the Rampur State. It seems Rampur under the new regime is flourishing.

FEARS are entertained of scarcity throughout the Deccan. It is apprehended that unless rain falls within the next fortnight of which there seems no prospect, the failure of the *rabi* or late harvest will be absolute over a great portion of the province. Water is scarce and the supply of fodder is insufficient, people are migrating in search of work. Prices have risen twenty per cent in consequence. The Madras crop report for the past week shows slight rainfall in a few districts, none elsewhere. The November rainfall was exceedingly deficient everywhere. Except in five districts the crops require rain urgently everywhere. The hope of further rain in Kurnool, Bellary, Anantapur, and Cuddapah Districts is little or none. Pasture and fodder are generally scarce in these districts, and cattle are suffering.

IT is stated that a change in the curriculum of the Entrance Examination of the University is contemplated, and that agreeably with the request of Government, Sir Alfred Croft has addressed a letter to the University on the subject. Besides English, History, Geography, Sanskrit and the vernacular languages, the Entrance candidate is now required to possess some knowledge of Science. Sir Alfred Croft recommends, in addition to these subjects, the study of Chemistry, Drawing, Physical Science, Agriculture, and other subjects. The candidates shall select two of these subjects in lieu of vernacular, or History and Geography. The candidates, passing in these new subjects, shall enjoy the same privileges as are now enjoyed by the F. A. students of the University. The question was considered recently and a Committee has been formed to consider what steps should be taken in the matter. There are optional subjects enough in the upper examinations and the

Entrance students might well have been allowed a little quiet, as distraction is unsuitable to those just entering the University. By the way, they will not have many Entrance students any longer, and it is stated that the University intends issuing a mandatory rule that in all schools, teaching up to the Entrance course, the number of boys in a class shall not exceed fifty. What is to become of the rest? Are they to help in multiplying bogus schools? We do not of course know if it is intended to break up inconveniently big classes into different sections, for the convenience of teachers as well as students.

THE *Statesman* says that Sir Alfred Croft, wishing to make the medical profession more easily accessible to native youths, proposes this and says that branches of physical science as chemistry, botany and zoology should be subjects of the matriculation examination, and that candidates passing in those branches should be entitled forthwith to enter the Medical College. The rule that now obtains requires a candidate to pass the First Arts examination before he can be admitted into the Medical College. It is needless to question the excellence of Sir Alfred's "intention". But we are decidedly opposed to distraction of this character on the threshold of the University. If what the *Statesman* says be true, there will be a lowering of standard as regards the medical profession proper which may not be at all desirable. Students used to be admitted to the Medical College after passing the Entrance Examination before, which was found undesirable and the standard was raised. It cannot be said that this change has led to the falling off of Medical students; on the contrary the great grievance is that the medical like other professions is over-crowded and there is not the slightest justification for the standard being again lowered. As to early scientific training it is all moonshine in which nobody believes. Up to a certain stage the general training ought to be uniform beyond doubt and it would be disastrous to offer too many "optional subjects" to Entrance candidates.

ST. ANDREW'S DINNER.

THE VICEROY'S SPEECH.

I should like to say a very few words with regard to the tour which I have just completed. It took me to no less than four Native States, all of them more or less important, and I should be wanting in fairness to the Rulers and the people of these States if I did not bear testimony to the cordial spirit in which I was received and to the loyalty which, I believe, prevails within them. (Cheers.)

I found in Gwalior a young Chief of very great promise, and likely, I hope, one day to preside with distinguished success over the destinies of the State, the affairs of which have, during his minority, been faithfully and skilfully administered by the State Council. Its finances are in good order; it has been able to spend liberally upon Public Works as well as upon Education, the Administration of Justice, and other useful public objects. (Hear hear.)

In Bhopal, I had the pleasure of making the acquaintance of her Highness the Begum, a lady who already impressed me by her shrewdness and sagacity, the traditions of whose State are thoroughly loyal, who is herself the firm friend of the British Government, and whose courteous reception of me at a time when she is still feeling the effects of a heavy domestic affliction I shall not readily forget. (Loud cheers.)

At Indore, I found his Highness the Maharaja Holkar taking a personal part in the administration of his State and interesting himself actively in the diffusion of knowledge among his subjects. (Hear, hear.)

My longest visit was that which I paid to the State of Kashmir, and gentlemen, I must express the pleasure which it gave me, after a very careful enquiry into its affairs, to be able to invite his Highness the Maharaja once more to take a part in the Government of the State, of which we have never ceased to regard him as the legitimate Ruler. During his temporary withdrawal from the Government, the State Council, ably presided over by Raja Amar Singh, and assisted by the British officers whom we have lent to the State, has laid the foundation for a sound system of financial administration, and has introduced improvements which will, I believe, in time effect a transformation in the position of the cultivators and secure the removal of most of the abuses which had previously disfigured the State. (Hear, hear and cheers.)

I dwell upon these facts, because I regard it as a matter of first-rate importance that the States in subordinate alliance with Her Majesty should be governed in such a manner that we need have no scruple in preserving for them the measure of independence which they at present enjoy. Not only would it be an act of injustice to deprive them of the privileges of self-Government to which they are entitled, but it would, I am convinced, be a distinct misfortune to the Empire if these interesting remnants of indigenous rule were to be entirely effaced. They may not all of them be governed entirely in accordance with our ideas of good government, but it is a question whether, in spite of this, they do not, from their point of view, prefer to remain under their own Rulers, even if they are denied some of the adminstrative luxuries which we provide for the people of British India. Be this as it may, the territory directly under the Government of India is already so large, and our tendency to govern in accordance with uniform principles and according to stereotyped methods of administration, is so strong that from our point of view, I should regard with unfeigned regret any event which might force us to assume responsibility for any part of the large areas at present governed by Indian Chiefs and Rulers. (Hear, hear.) It is instructive both for the Natives of this country, and for Europeans, that the two kinds of Government should be in force side by side, and in the full view of public opinion. We are all of us fond of dwelling upon the necessity of decentralising our administration, and considering all the circumstances of India, I doubt whether there is any form of decentralisation more useful than that which leaves the domestic affairs of a large portion of the country to the managemet of its own people. (Hear, hear.)

But I must not forget that I am replying not only for the toast of my own health, but for that of the land we live in. Most of us will probably be content to accept the description which the Chairman gave of it when he told us that it was "not a bad place on the whole," and it certainly looks very pleasant to me this evening. But I think he hit the mark when he pointed out to us that its principal imperfection lay in the fact that it was, above all things, a land of great and sudden vicissitudes—a land in which we can never tell to-day what to-morrow has in store for us. From the poor ryot who sees his scanty crop swept off the face of the earth in a few hours by a swarm of locusts, to the Financial Member of Council who sees his hopes of a surplus suddenly wrecked by agencies over which he has no control, we are all of us liable to see our "cloud-built castles and our golden dreams" shattered and dissipated by visitations as unlooked-for as they are overwhelming. However fair the prospect may be, India never ceases to be conscious that the gaunt spectres of war, want, and insolvency are hovering in the distance and ready to swoop down upon us at any moment. (Cheers.) Their unwelcome presence is one of the conditions under which we exist, and we must not regard it in a querulous or despondent spirit. We may find some crumbs of comfort in the reflection that it would not be difficult to point to other countries in which the prospects of peace are more precarious, and the consequences of famine even more terrible, than they are in India. The business of the Government of India is not to wring its hands, but to be forewarned and fore-armed, ready for the emergency whenever it comes, and from whatever quarter. (Loud cheers.)

We are at this moment, I regret to say, confronted with the prospect of serious scarcity in several parts of the Empire, and our thoughts travel from this cheerful scene to regions in which distress and grave anxiety for the future must prevail for some time to come. In portions of Rajputana, and more specially in that part of it which is under the Government of India, of Madras, and of Burma, the outlook is, I grieve to say, a very gloomy one. The same may be said of the Hyderabad State, and of the eastern parts of the Bombay Deccan, and there are some districts in this Province in which everything depends upon the climatic conditions of the next few weeks. We may console ourselves by the reflection that we are better epuipped than we ever were to meet the danger. Our intelligence is more timely, our means of supplying relief more adequate, than they were. (Hear, hear.)

It may interest my hearers to know that, taking the whole of the affected areas, the total number in receipt of State relief, either in the shape of work or charity, is at present under 60,000. (Hear, hear.) The smallness of these numbers will be appreciated when it is remembered that they were considerably exceeded in the Ganjam District alone during the scarcity of 1889, and I may add that, although there has been great mortality amongst cattle, the loss of human life properly attributable to scarcity, I am glad to say, up to the present time, been insignificant. (Hear, hear.)

The measures adopted by the Local Governments have been well considered and vigorous, (hear, hear), and I am glad to have this opportunity of placing on record my appreciation of the valuable exertions made by the authorities in the threatened districts, and more especially by Sir Alexander Mackenzie in Burma (cheers), and by my friend Lord Wenlock, whom we shall have the pleasure of welcoming to Calcutta almost immediately, and whose personal solicitude for the welfare of the people of his Presidency at one time led him to run a serious risk to his own health. (Loud cheers.)

I am not surprised that my hon'ble friend should have called attention to the startling revelations of the last census. They do indeed afford food for reflection, some of it not of an altogether comfortable kind. We may perhaps draw two conclusions from them. The marvellous increase of the population, upon the one hand, proves to demonstration the success with which

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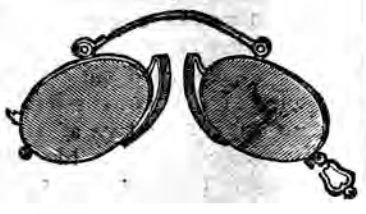

DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL.—ITS UNEQUALLED EFFICACY IN DISEASES OF THE THROAT.—Sir G. Duncan Gibb, Bart., M. D., LL. D. Physician and Lecturer on Forensic Medicine, Westminister Hospital, author of various works on Diseases of the Throat and Larynx, writes:—"The experience of many years has abundantly proved the truth of every word said in favour of Dr. de Jongh's Light Brown Cod Liver Oil by many of our first Physicians and Chemists, thus stamping him as a high authority and an able Chemist whose investigation have remained unquestioned. Its value, therefore, as a therapeutic agent in a number of diseases chiefly of an exhaustive character, has been admitted by the world of medicine; but, in addition, I have found it a remedy of great power in the treatment of many Affections of the Throat and Larynx, especially in Consumption where it will sustain life when everything else fails. Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil has an agreeable flavour, is very palatable, and liked by children; hence its value in the third stage of Hooping Cough, when it acts as a restorative and tonic." Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold only in capsuled imperial half-pints, and quarts, with his stamp and signature of his sole consignees on the capsule and the label under wrapper, by all chemists druggists and storekeepers. Sole Consignees, Ansar, Harford and Co., 210, High Holborn, London. 2

HOW TO AVOID DYSENTERY.—In August above all other periods of the year are to be observed numerous cases of derangements of the Stomach, Entrails, and frequently of Dysentery. When these maladies appear, employ at once Belloc's Charcoal; it is the surest and most rapid cure, but prevention is better than cure; and we are rendering a veritable service to our readers in advising them to abstain as much as possible from indulgence in fermented drinks and unripe fruit, and recommending them to quench their thirst with tar water prepared from "Guyot's Tar Solution" (Goudron de Guyot.) Guyot's preparation is within reach of all purses, for one bottle suffices to make twelve quarts of purified tar water.

our system of Government has combated those agencies which in former days imposed some check upon the multiplication of the people of India. The second conclusion which we shall probably draw is that it becomes everyday more and more the duty of the Government of India to seek for some means of relieving the pressure of the population upon the means of subsistence by bringing new tracts under cultivation either by means of irrigation, or by improving the means of access to them, and by encouraging the occupants of the most densely inhabited districts to transfer themslves to those which are at present but sparsely occupied (Hhar, hear.) These important problems are, I am able to assure you, engaging our earnest attention. (Chears.)

As to the spectre of war, we may I hope, say confidently that there is but little prospect of strife within our own borders. Not only is the surface smooth, but the great mass of the people are probably convinced that their prosperity is closely bound up with the peace which we have been able to secure for them, and that they will be the greatest losers if that peace should be disturbed. (Cheers.)

As for aggression from without, all that we can say is that the maintenance of peace does not depend upon our action here, but upon events occurring in other parts of the world, and over which we have no control. If that peace is broken, it will certainly not be in conseqnence of any acts of aggression, or of any desire for territorial aggrandisement, on our part. Here too we may find consolation in the thought that we were never stronger for the purpose of resisting attack from without than we are at the present time, and, in a view of this fact, I hope my friend, the President, will not grudge us that expenditure upon the country's defences to which he has referred, and which we shall, I devoutly hope, ultimately be able to curtail. (Cheers.)

But, gentlemen, there is another kind of warfare which does not come within either of the categories which I have mentioned, and with which we are, unfortunately, but too familiar in India. I refer to those little wars upon our frontiers of which, within the year which is about to end, we have unfortunately had no less than three upon our hands. With a land frontier of some five thousand miles, a great part of which is occupied by predatory and uncivilized tribes, complications of this sort are unhappily inevitable, and we cannot expect entire immunity from them. But I can assure you, that upon no Government of India have these minor quarrels been more reluctantly forced than upon that of which I have the honour to be the head. My colleagues and I have fully realised the strain which they occasion to our resources, and the fact that their results are often scarcely commensurate with the trouble and the cost which they involve. The only point upon which I venture to insist is that, if disagreeable work of this kind has to be done, we should do it thoroughly. (Loud cheers.) The three little wars which we have had to wage during 1891 have been brought to a deliberate and satisfactory conclusion. None of them could, I believe, have been avoided without a serious blow to our credit and good name. (Cheers.)

Mr. President, just as the maintenance of international peace depends upon the course of events in other parts of the world, so the maintenance of our financial equilibrium depends to a great extent, not upon ourselves, but upon the vagaries of Washington and Westminister. (Cheers and laughter.) The triumph of the gentlemen, who are, I believe, known as he "gold bugs" in the one place, or of the extreme anti-opium party in the other, may at any moment not only destroy the prospect of a surplus, but may render it extremely dfficult to maintain an equilibrium between revenue and expenditure. A few months ago we were basking in the sunshine of a one and ninepenny rupee. My hon'ble friend, Sir David Barbour, very properly declined to be tempted into extravagances on the strength of this windfall, and the "kittle" coin has already been degraded to its former low estate. As for Opium, our danger seems to me to lie in the extraordinary misapprehensions which prevail as to the attitude of the Government of India in regard to this much-vexed question. We have lately, as the President has told you, addressed the Secretary of State in an important Despatch dealing with a part of the subject,—a Despatch which will, I hope, convince some of our critics that nothing is further from our intentions than to push the sale of opium for revenue purposes; that the alleged increase of consumption has been much exaggerated; and that where it exists it is to be explained by the increase of the population, and by the fact that, owing to greater vigilance on the part of our officers, the legitimate consumption of the drug has increased at the expense of the illicit traffic which prevails in many parts of India. Whether a moderate use of the drug is worse than a moderate use of the natioual beverage of which the President has spoken so affectionately, (laughter), I will not now enquire, but of this I am persuaded that, if we were to be deprived, by a stroke of the pen, of our opium revenue to-morrow, the consumption of the drug would continue inspite of us, and that it is as much beyond our power to put an end to the use of opium in China and in India, as it would, I believe, be beyond the power of the friends of temperance in England to put an absolute stop to the consumption of inoxicating liquors in that country. (Loud cheers.) The question is one which requires to be dealt with in a reasonable and judicial spirit, and I need scarcely add that the Government of India are ready to accept any useful suggestions which may be made by those who approach it in such a spirit for the removal of the undoubted abuses which attend the immoderate use of the drug. The Despatch to which I have referred contains proposals which ought, I think, to satisfy our critics of the *bona fides* of our intentions in this respect. (Hear, hear.)

If a reasonable view of the question prevails, I believe that, thanks to the elasticity of our revenue, we need not, even with the rupee at 1s. 4d., despair of making both ends meet without adding to the burdens of the tax-payer. But then my honorable friend is not content with an equilibrium on the basis of existing taxation. He has kindly told us that he does not propose to invite a discussion of his particular complaint on such a joyous occasion as the present, but I must be allowed to assure him that I entirely agree with him, both as an income-tax payer on an income which no amount of watchfulness on my part can possibly conceal from the vigilant eye of the tax collector (cheers and laughter), and as one who has considered these questions as matters of principle, in thinking that a direct tax on incomes is an impost which is open to a great many objections. (Loud and continued cheers.) But then, I am bound to add that so also is the increased tax upon salt which we have been lately obliged to require from the poorest class of the community, while the same might be said of the duty upon rice, against which I have heard my friend, Mr. Steel, argue from his place in Council, with convincing force. I am afraid, therefore, that all the comfort which I can give my hon'ble friend is to assure him that, whenever we arrive at the blissful moment for considering what remissions of taxation we shall propose, the earnest protest which, upon this and upon other occasions, he had recorded against the income tax shall be carefully weighed. (Cheers.)

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KALLYNATH MITTER & SARVADHIKARY,
Attorneys for S. M. Manokarani Dabi

Corresp nde ce.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

London, October 30, 1891.

BENGAL AND RAILWAYS IN BURMAH.

The desire of our merchants to circumvent the Chinese in their strenuous efforts to interpose a barrier between themselves and the European Continent shown in a very forcible imanner by the recent outrages against European residents in that country has been rather stimulated than otherwise by these recent events. There is much speculation amongst them as to the means by which the object they have at heart, the opening up of China for the benefit of European trade, may be accomplished.

Amongst others is one of some interest to Indians; especially to Bengal. This is the construction of a railway from the Eastern Provinces of Bengal through the Shan States. The Government survey of the route from Mandalay, through the Shan States to "within 25 miles of the flourishing Chinese Shan town of Mainting in the Province of Yunan" is said to have settled that this is the most convenient route for the commnnication desired and that Mr. Bagley's report has left no doubt that this must be the line to accomplish the long desired opening of a trade route to Western China; a desire which has been for more than half a century pressed on the British Government by the united voice of our mercantile community and will prove the fore-runner of an enormous development of British commerce. The survey was made in 1889-90 but the Supreme Government of India suspended the completion of the survey during the following year and all work there has been since in abeyance. Two months ago a unnanimous and combined resolution has been submitted to the Secretary of State for India by the mercantile community of Burmah protesting against the delay and urging the speedy prosecution of the work. Resolutions to the same effect were sent in by the Chambers of Commerce of Manchester, Blackburn, Liverpool, Birmingham and Bradford. The delay is ascribed to the inadequate means available for the work and the appropriation of allotted funds to other communications which—in the opinion of the advocates of the railway policy—though important for local and administrative purpose sink into insignificance when compared with the speedy connection with Western China unquestionably as it is for the benefit of the commerce and manufactures of the Empire, as well as for the development of the rich Shan States and the revenue of Burmah generally.

It may probably be thought that the Government is, or ought to be, the best judge of the relative merits of taking steps to "benefit the commerce and manufactures of the Empire at large" and of attending to the wants and interests of Burmah itself. There may be objects more beneficial to the Burmese people even than the opening of railways which, commend themselves to the mercantile community because they are likely to "bring the Chinese to their senses" and promote railways throughout the length and breadth of China. The mercantile community of the Empire may perhaps hardly have taken this sufficiently into account in their impatience to exploit the Celestials.

MEMORY. LOISETTE'S System. A Law Lecturer of King's College London (J. H. Scaife, LL.B.), says (Jan., 1891): "Invaluable for examination purposes and as a sound training of the Memory." A Cambridge University) Lecturer (Dr. R. N. Ingle, M.A.) was (Jan., 1890- "Much impressed with the possibilities of improvement to memory which the LOISETTE Lessons open up." "I derived great benefit for your lessons, though it at first prejudiced against them by the misrepresentanons of Mr. Appleby."—Dr. Geo. Herschell, Pysician to the West End Hospital for Diseases of the Nervous System, London. "In three weeks I was able to memorise the names, &c., of 400 men."—Major Jamieson, Bengal S. C. "Excellent' traveling companion."—Capt J. B. Haye, R. N. "Wonderful aid to memory."—Mirza Sader-ud-din Khan. "Invaluable." —J. J. Francis, Q. B. "Does not involve much labpour."—*Statesman*, 23rd Oct., 1887 "The audience (representative of the learned Professions) was most enthusiastic." *Glasgow Herald*, 5th March, 1891 Tremendously popular in Oxford."—*Pall Mall Gazette*, 4th Feb., 1890. Prospectus Free. One Pupk Rs. 76; Ten pupils Rs. 19 each. Apply to F. Fili Williams, 71, Elliot Road, Calcutta; or to A. LOISETTE, 37 New Oxford Street, London

Forestry and Opium.

At first sight there is not much connection between the subject of forestry and opium, but if we speak of opium revenue then perhaps it may be guessed that it is in the matter of finance that the two subjects to ich. That is so, and the point is made in a book just published by Dr. Schlich who succeeded Sir Dietrich Brandis as Inspector-General of Forestry in India and who is now the principal Professor of Forestry at Coopers Hill. This book is called "a Manual of Forestry," and naturally in it the Indian forest service forms the subject of one of the most important sections. According to the statement of Dr. Schlich in speaking of the growth of the revenue since the Forest Department was established as a State Department in 1864 after some tentative and partial efforts, the net annual revenue has increased progressively until it is now more than four times what it was. It is still advancing so that Dr. Schlich sees in this a hopeful idea which may give some comfort to the anti-opium party. They are sadly at a loss to know how to meet the revenue difficulty, and in their distress they have had to resort to the futility of suggesting that the English rate-payer might put his hand into his pocket. Dr. Schlich comes to their assistance with the suggestion that "the increasing forest revenue bids fair to become a substantial set off against the expected loss of the opium revenue—a loss which may occur some day." During the recent opium debate the late Mr. Smith said that the Government policy had been to diminish the consumption of the drug; that it had been successful during the last five years and would be persevered in. It has been pointed out however that in the article on opium by Dr. Watts the statistics given show that the revenue from the consumption of opium in India has gone on steadily increasing during the whole period covered by his tables viz., from Rx. 345,918 in 1867-8 to Rx. 928,928 in 1889-90. It is absurd to say that, if the Government policy has been during the last five years to diminish the consumption it has been successful. The five years from 1883 to 1887 were precisely those years when a greater quantity of opium was produced than has been produced during any period of the thirty years from 1860 to 1890; and though there was a sudden drop from 1,23,043 mds. in 1887-8 to 67,732 in 1888-9 yet in 1889-90 it had risen to 95,868.

Snake-bites and an antidote.

The question whether an antidote can be found for snake poisoning is one of great importance in India where the largest loss of life from wild animals and the greatest destruction of domestic animals are due to snake bites. In Australia Dr. A. Mueller has been publishing a series of articles containing the result of his experiments with strychnine which have been highly successful. The use of strychnine is not a new idea for it has been experimented with at Calcutta, London, Melbourne, and Dorpat it having been suggested by the fact that its symptoms are those which seemed most likely to be produced by antidote. After a series of experiments however the task was abandoned on finding a physiological antidote for snake poison. It was reserved for a practitioner in Australia to show how strychnine should be used. Dr. Mueller carefully studied the theory of the action of snake poison independently and convinced himself that all the symptoms were explicable as being due to functional derangement and not organic disease of certain nerve centres in the nature of paralysis upon which strychnine acts as a stimulant. Accordingly Mueller injected it freely venturing boldly within less than an hour on quantities of the drug that would have been fatal but for the antagonism existing between the two poisons. Under this treatment death is extremely sure and seemingly has been due to reluctance to proceed to administer sufficiently large doses to turn the scale. Another fact in connection with this treatment is the use of alcohol. It was found that alcohol in the presence of snake poison has no stimulating object at all, but asserts this effect at once after the snake poison has been neutralised by the antidote; it seems that alcohol has rather a depressing than a stimulating effect and this is quite useless as an antidote. Dr. Mueller's experiments were made entirely upon Australian snake bites. What has to be proved is whether his treatment will be equally successful with the bites of Indian and all other snakes. The probabilities are said to be in its favour as there is scarcely room for doubting that all snake poison acts according to one uniform principle and that apparent differences are quantitative or the result of concentration on different parts of the motor nerve centres. Before long we ought to hear of Government action in this matter.

Burmese women and Medical aid.

The National Association for Supplying Medical aid to the Women of India with which the name of the Countess of Dufferin is so closely associated, appears to be doing good work in Burmah. A branch has been at work for four years and the success attained by it has been very encouraging. An old bungalow was converted into an hospital for women with fifteen beds and in it have been received and treated 1,013 in-patients and about 2,000 out-patients. A number of native women have been instructed in nursing and midwifery and no fewer than fifty of these have passed examinations and are now practising in various parts, of the country as qualified midwifes and nurses. The examiners who are qualified medical men practising in Rangoon have expressed themselves as much pleased by the proficiency and practical training of their pupils. The Burman Municipalities have shown their appreciation of the work by defraying some of the expenses of the probationers and afterwards providing them with suitable employment. The old building cannot on account of delapidations go on much longer and it has become necessary to erect in Rangoon a small new maternity hospital and home for pupil nurses and funds are needed for which there has been made an appeal in the "Lancet." In a paper read by Dr. Pedley before the Obstetrical Society in England he describes the Native Burmese midwifery as being hardly to be surpassed for ignorant and violent barbarity, but he adds that nature is kind, as a rule, to the mother, and carries her safely through; but she evidently has to fight against very heavy odds. Since Moliere wrote his "La Malade Imaginaire" the co-operation of the Doctor with Nature has become much more real and less imaginary; and perhaps the obstetrical department of nature's operations has most of all benefited from the labours of the great European Synæcologists.

The Cult of Aide de Camp.

The writer of a pleasant article on the Military in India, in the "Anti Jacobin" of this week, treats tenderly that side of the social life of Simla which Mr. Rudyard Kipling by his caustic stories has made familiar to English readers. By the side of the brilliant soldiers who flock to Simla the poor Civilian isolated half his time from the rest of the world with eccentricities and peculiarities developed by the circumstances of his position does not make much of a figure and at Simla at any rate like our English squire in the society of the metropolis is somewhat out of his element. According to the writer while there are at Simla various Catholic, Anglican and Protestant places of worships and perhaps in the bazaar on the hill side some small mosques or Hindu temples the real religion of Simla is the cult of the A. D. C. The worst yet is that "this cult is apt to excite to the world of women jealousies and rivalry which may in an Empire like ours lead to the most far-reaching consequences"—a kind of danger which is the natural outcome of a despotism. It has always been so and the feminine element always has its career in proportion to the extent of the personal rule and the absence of a constitution. As the writer puts it, "the prototype of the A. D. C., was Paris the son of Priam, whose gay and thoughtless charm set at issue both goddesses and mortal women, whence proceeded the clash of arms, the fall of Troy, the death of Hector the madness of Ajax, the murder of Agamemnon, the suicide of Dido and many other tragic events." Often no doubt many serious events in India might be traced to the "woman" who, according to the French proverb, must be sought for whenever any national or domestic misfortune has happened.

Judged from his conversation the military officer rarely impresses our mind with an opinion of great intellectual acquirements and he does not appear to be more brilliant in this respect at Simla than elsewhere, his discourse dividing itself into four equal parts being polo, other sports and pastimes, regimental shops and fourthly all other subjects. "Through all the conversation runs that noble animal the horse." The excuse is made for too much polo in talk and practice—the most seriously taken matter that occupy the Indian soldier—that it gives to the Englishman and the Native something in common. He mentions that at the Punjab tournament held at Lahore last Christmas the team of a Bengal Cavalry regiment composed of one Englishman and three native officers defeated all competitors with the greatest ease. It seems too that the British officers are much better acquainted with their men in Native Cavalry regiment than in Native Infantry regiments because in the Cavalry the horses give officers and men something in common. That is so far good no doubt, but it is a wretchedly small basis for a good understanding between two people and their friendship leaves much to be desired One can only sigh and think. "'Tis true, 'tis pity: pity 'tis 'tis true." And yet when one thinks of the many intellectual interests which might bind two highly civilized peoples like the Indians and the English, and of the wide field of politics in which Indian and Englishmen might serve together, could prejudice be overcome and common sense rule, we may hope for the day when both will have some more worthy object to join their sympathies together than even the noble animal the horse.

Photograph of the death-scene of Vidyasagar.

In the Daily Graphic appears a letter illustrated by a photograph sent from India of the scene at the death of the late Pandit Iswar Chandra Vidyasagar. The letter says that the many virtues of the deceased Pandit and his splendid attainments in the learning of the Shastras, as well as his acquaintance with most forms of Western literature have made the late Pandit a man of such mark that the photograph of the dying scene, taken immediately after death, near the bank of the sacred Ganges will be not without interest to English people. That is indeed true and yet one hardly feels that such a scene is altogether an appropriate one for the photographer. Upon that however I would not care to say more than that this is my own individual opinion. The letter states that the photo is taken after death but it is evidently taken before the last moment, and this is in fact stated in the title of the photo. Apart from the sentiment I have mentioned the scene is very striking, and to one informed of thet manner of life of the remarkable personage there represented in his departure from the world, full of interest and pathos.

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Government Notification

Calcutta Gazette—*December 2*, 1891.

GENERAL.—Mr. C. A. Bell, who has recently been appointed to be a member of the Indian Civil service, is appointed to be an Assistant Magistrate and Collector in the Presidency Division, and is posted to the head-quarters station of the 24-Pergunnahs district.

Mr. A. H. Collins, Officiating District and Sessions Judge, Jessore, is allowed leave for three months, viz., one munth and ten days under article 306 (*b*) of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 5th December 1891, or such subsequent date as he may be relieved.

Babu Nowrungi Lall, substantive *pro tempore* Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Durbhunga, is confirmed in the seventh grade of Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors.

Mr. H. D. deM. Carey, who has recently been appointed to be a member of the Indian Civil Service, is appointed to be an Assistant Magistrate and Collector in the Patna Division, and is posted to the head-quarters station of the Patna district.

Mr. W. N. Delevingen, who has recently been appointed to be a member of the Indian Civil Service, is appointed to be an Assistant Magistrate and Collector in the Chittagong Division, and is posted to the head-quarters station of the Durbhunga district.

The services of Babu Jnan Sunker Sen, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collecto r,are placed at the disposal of the Revenue Department of this Government for employment on settlement duty, with effect from the date on which he joined his appointment.

Supernumerary Second Lieutenant Willam Boughton Chambers, Cawnpore Volunteer Rifle Corps, is appointed to be Second Lieutenant in the 1st Battalion, Calcutta Volunteer Rifle Corps.

The services of Mr. J. F. Stevens, District and Sessions Judge, Mozufferpore, are placed temporarily at the disposal of the Government of India in the Home Department.

Mr. W. H. Page, District and Sessions Judge, Moorshedabad, is appointed to act as District and Sessions Judge of Mozufferpore, during the absence, on deputation of Mr. J. F. Stevens, or until further orders.

Babu Atul Chandra Chatterjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Patuakhally, Backergunge, is allowed leave for two months, under article 369 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 8th ultimo.

Kumar Girindra Narain Deb, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Jessore, is allowed leave for twenty-one days, under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, in extension of the leave granted to him under the order of the 16th ultimo.

The following officers are appointed to perform the functions of a Collector under sections 4, Act VII (B.C.) of 1880, in the districts mentioned opposite their names:—
Babu Deno Nath Mookerjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Bogra.

Babu Probhat Chundra Chatteriee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Rungpore.

Second Lieutenant C. L. Gaussen, 18th Hussars, is appointed to be an Extra Aide-de-Camp on the personal staff of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.

Mr. H. McPherson, who has recently been appointed to be a member of the Indian Civil Service, is appointed to be an Assistant Magistrate and Collector in the Orissa Division, and is posted to the head-quarters station of the Cuttack district.

Mr. A. E. Harward is appointed to act, until further orders, in the first grade of Joint Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, and is posted to the head-quarters station of the Durbhunga district, with effect from the date on which he may be relieved of his present appointment as Officiating Magistrate and Collector of Khoolna.

Mr. C. P. Caspersz, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector on leave, is posted to the head-quarters station of the Moorsedabad district.

Mr. A. J. Fraser, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Raneegunge, Burdwan, is allowed furlough for two years, under article 371 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the date on which he may be relieved by Mr. C. J. Stevenson-Moore.

M. C. J. Stevenson-Moore, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, is appointed to act, until further orders, in the first grade of Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collectors and to have charge of the Raneegunge sub-division of the Burdwan district, on being relieved of his present appointment as Officiating Magistrate and Collector of Jossore.

Mr. F. S. Hamilton, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, is appointed to act, until further orders, in the first grade of Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, and is posted to the head- quarters station of the Chittagong district, on being relieved of his present appointment as Officiaiing Magistrate and Collector of Hooghly.

JUDICIAL—Mr. C. A. Bell, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, 24-Pergunnahs, is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class.

Mr. H. D. deM. Carey, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Patna, is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class.

Mr. W. N. Delevingne, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Chittagong, is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class.

Mr. J. E. Webster, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Durbhunga, is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class.

Mr. Pran Nath Banerjee, Munsif of Comillah, in the district of Tipperah, is appointed to act as Snbordinate Judge and Small Cause Court Judge of Monghyr, during the absence,on leave, of Babu Jagaddurlubh Mozumdar, or until further orders.

Babu Girindra Mohan Chuckerbutty, Munsif of Comillah, in the district of Tipperah, is vested temporarily with the power of a Judge of a Court of Small Causes for the trial of suits cognizable by such a Court up to the value of Rs. 100 within the local limits of the Comillah Munsifi, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. Pran Nath Banerjee, or until fnrther orders.

Babu Ramesh Chunder Sen, B.L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Tipperah, to be ordinarily stationed at Comillah, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. Pran Nath Banerjee, or until further orders.

Mr. H. McPherson, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Cuttack, is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class.

Babu Todul Narain Singh is appointed to be an Honorary Magistrate of the Giridih Bench, in the district of Hazaribagh, and is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class.

Mr. F. S. Hamilton, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Chittagong, is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the first class, and with the power to try summarily the offences mentioned in section 260 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

Babu Ram Jadab Talapatra, Munsif of Barrabazar in the district of Manbhum, is appointed to be a Munsif in the district of of Burdwan, to be ordinarily stationed at Cutwa, and is vested with the powers of a District Court under section 26 of Act VII of 1889 withen the local limits of the Cutwa Munsif.

Babu Manmatha Nath Chatterjee, Munsif of Cutwa in the district of Burdwan, is appointed to be a Munsif in the district of Manbhoom, to be ordinarily stationed at Barrabazar.

Mr. J. Windsor, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Serampur, Hooghly, is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the first class, and with the power to try summarily the offences mentioned in section 260 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

Babu Ambica Churn Mukerjee, Second Munsif of Nilphamaree, Rangpur, is transferred temporarily to Beerbhum, and is appointed to act as a Munsif in that district, to be ordinarily stationed at Soory.

Babu Kedar Nath Mozumdar, Subordinate Judge of Shahabad, is appointed to act as an Additional Subordinate Judge of the 24-Pergunahs until further orders.

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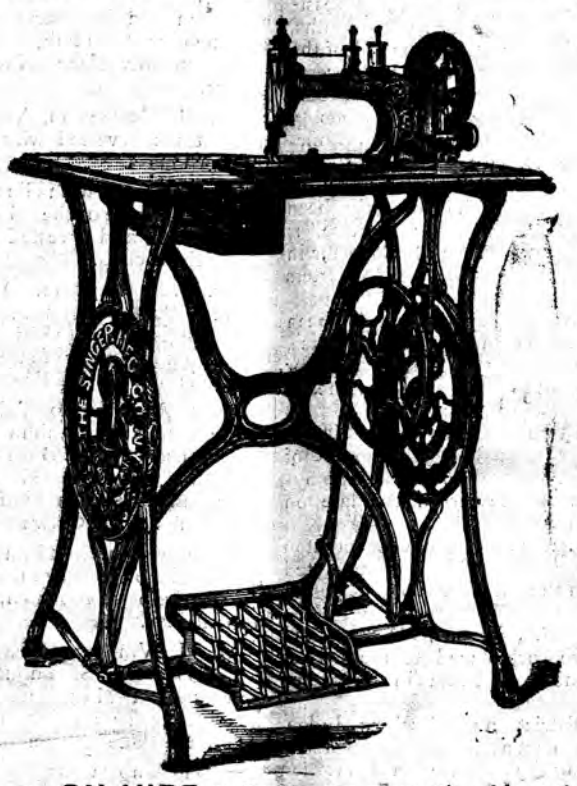

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Extracts.

BUDDHISM.

[BY PROFESSOR MAX MULLER.]

ORIGINAL Buddhism was, if I may so say, a religion without theology and a philosophy without metaphysics. It had nothing to tell men of God. It concerned itself only with a clear perception of nature. It formulated no creed; its only symbol was a belief in virtue. It held out no hopes for the future, but it had no belief in immortality. It taught no aspiration in the form of prayer, for its only orison was the triple formula said by the novice on his admission to the brotherhood, "I go for refuge to the Buddha; I go for refuge to the law; I go for refuge to the order." That which gave it power and dominancy in its early days was its insistence on the *brotherhood* of all men. Since all were involved in its common doom and sorrow, since life was only a dreary round of suffering, the least men could do was to be *fellow* sufferers. The ideal to be aimed at was to quell all the causes of sorrow in ourselves and to remove them all we could from the path of those about us.

And thus Buddhism failed. It was not distinct enough. Its very breadth of toleration was a cause of weakness. Unlike Hebrewism, which demanded of its votary all or nothing which would allow no fellowship with the Gentile, and which made the extinction of the indigenous inhabitants the first duty of the immigrants into its Holy Land; unlike that, Buddhism never claimed to be an exclusive system. It never persecuted even when eighteen kings professed its belief. A man might be a Buddhist and at the same time a Hindu, a Confucianist, a Shintoist, a Taonist, a Jew, or a Christian.

Later Buddhism, the Buddhism of to-day, is a confession of this weakness and an attempt to supply the dogmatic teaching necessary for the masses of men. Thus, for instance, though Buddha distinctly repudiated all knowledge in an hereafter, there is a complete scheme of heaven and hell. There are one hundred and thirty-six divisions in the Buddhist Inferno to receive as many classes of offenders, all in tiers one above the other, and lying deep below the earth. It is true that the punishment is not eternal. But as the shortest duration in any of these hells is for 1,725,000 years, we can imagine that it must be a terrific deterrent to evil-doers. *Per contra*, the heavens are 26 in number, and their occupants range from beings liable to sensuous desires, to formless entities that have reached a stage of the highest divinity. And so far from Nirvana being the apex of the desires amongest modern religious Buddhists, Sir M. Monier Williams tells us that their chief ambition is to attain to one of these heavens, whilst the lower people are content to aim at the escaping of one of the lower hells. Suffering is inevitable; they will endeavour to undergo a minimum.

Thus, also, the unnaturalness of celibacy procured its speedy desuetude. Even in the Lamaseres in Thibet the monasteries swarm with children of the monks, though called, by an euphemism not unknown to historical students, their nephews and nieces. And whilst poverty was a vow binding on the early disciples, these monasteries are many of them, as rich as the shrine which Erasmus describes in his memorable journey to Canterbury. And so again it has been found impossible not to accept the universal longing for "Another not ourselves, that makes for righteousness." If not in a personal Creater, they have come at last to believe in a devine and infallible Buddha, to whom their prayers are addressed as "the chief god of all gods." The steady tread of modern Buddhism has been towards the Brahminism, against which it was, in its origin, an emphatic protest; and it is not a little curious that whilst it was so successful in other lands it has almost disappeared from its native place. It only lasted in India till the eleventh century. Elsewhere it has succumbed to Confucianism, to Jainism, above all to the aggressive Mohammedanism with which it has come into close quarters. Its adherents, contrary to a widespread opinion amongst ourselves, are steadily declining. The Oxford professor of Chinese, Dr. Legge, and Dr. Happer, an American expert, both of whom have carefully gone into the statistics of Buddhism, compute their number at about 100 millions. They are most numerous in China, and it is sometimes said that they outnumber the Confucianists, but the Chinese ambassador, Liu, ridiculed this view. (*Vide* Sir M. Monier Williams's *Buddhism*, Intr., pp. 16-17.)

It is often urged that Buddhism at least teaches men to avoid sin and to aim at purity and goodness of life. It may be so theoretically, but rarely and practically hardly ever. The ideal ilfe, the search after right and truth because it is right and true, is almost unknown among modern Buddhists. Good actions are performed to accumulate a store of merit —to store up merit like capital in a bank, so as to effect the happiness of the subject in the after life. Thus the story is told in the Siamese legends of a notorious murderer who had committed nine hundred and ninety-nine murders, but who afterwards attained such perfection as to cut off the demerit of his actions, and won for himself admission into the upper heavens (Alabaster—*Wheel of the Law*, p. 51.) Or again, a modern intelligent Sikh was asked about his religion. He replied, I am no idolator; I believe in one God, and I repeat my prayers every morning and evening. These prayers occupy six pages of print, but I can get through them in ten minutes." "What else does your religion require of you?" He answered, "I have made one pilgrimage to Amritsar. Eighty-five steps lead down to it, I descended and bathed in the sacred pool. Then I ascended one step and repeated my prayers with great rapidity. And so on for the whole 85 steps, 85 bathings, and 85 repetitions of the same prayers. It took me exactly 14 hours, and I fasted all the time." Asked what good he expected to get from this long task, he answered, "I hope I have laid up an abundant store of merit, which will last me for a long time." (Sir M. Monier William's *Buddhism*, p. 547.) This puerile conception of prayer reaches its nadir in Tibet. Here prayer is multiplied by the use of machinery of all kinds; prayer-barrels and prayer-bells, prayer-mills and prayer-papers, prayer-wheels and prayer-flags, praying staffs and praying-walls are in daily use. The landscape is dotted with one form or another of them. A whole nation employs its leisure, nay, its very business moments, and even the intervals of disputes, in an imaginary storing up of merit. Nothing but the introduction of steam-power is wanted for it to arrange a composition for the sins of the whole universe. Such is the development run wild of the single prayer of its founder.

It would be unfair, however, to assume that all modern Buddhists hold such superstitious and childish notions. In Siam and in Tibet large numbers have thrown aside negative speculation and ecclesiastical authority, and have abandoned the whole miraculous element In Ceylon, especially, great efforts have been made to purge Buddhism from the accretions of doctrine it has received, and to go back to the faith as it was proclaimed in its early days. And in connection with this we may remark that what is called Esoteric Buddhism, with its professors who by their abstinence and purity possessed larger powers and more profound insight than other living philosophers," with its manifestations akin to spiritualistic phenomena, mesmerism, animal magnetism, and the like—the so called "Theosophy"—is by no means well established. Some of the alleged displays of occult force have been investigated by delegates from the Psychical Research Society, and shown to be palpably absurd.

Yet notwithstanding its partial reform—though a reform so limited in its operation that not one in a thousand Buddhists is aware of its existence—notwithstanding its partial resuscitation by English and American admirers, some of whom have been received into its ranks, and are numbered, I believe with its priesthood—Buddhism seems to have reached the stage of incipient decay. It will linger, no doubt. Its love of contemplation will long secure it a home in the Oriental mind. Its mild and gentle demeanour accommodates itself full easily to the Siamease, the Tibetans, and Cinghalese. But it cannot stand when it competes for existence with Mahomedanism. It has not the vitality of the Jewish religion; its energy is not comparable with Christianity. It has "had its day; it will cease to be." That it has conferred enormous benefits on Asia is unquestionable. It asserted the principle of freedom in a country overrun with religious "monarchism." It was the earliest belief that sought to confer on woman something of the dignity of co-partnership with man. It formed a rampart of democracy against the hierarchy of Brahminism, and modified the hideous system of caste to such an extent as to make life tolerable to the ryot as as to the rajah. It formed libraries and encouraged a love of literature among the people in an age when our own ancestors were steeped in barbarism. It placed educations on a broad and ample basis, and made it free alike to prince and peasant. It developed art and made of the lotus its crest a sign of beauty and of the evanescence of life and of the wheel an emblem of eternity, long before its incorporation by Gothic architects into their most splendid structures. It wrested a new paradise from the earth in the importance it gave to the culture of flowers and the tillage of the soil. It was a centre of unity in Asia amid her rude and isolated tribes, and encouraged an interchange of thought and travel amid peoples most distant and dissimilar. For a moment, indeed, it seemed on the point of achieving universal dominion. Kablai Khan and his Tartars accepted it and made it their state religion and we know how their sway extended from China up to the frontiers of Poland. But what is of infinitely greater moment is the mollifying influence it wrought on those semi-savages; how it impressed them with respect for human life, how it discouraged avarice how it tempered their behaviour to the peoples subject to their yoke, and so wherever it went it exercised a high and refining power over the manners and morals of men. If it did not encourage "other worldliness," at least it made this world more happy and peaceful. If it underrated the joys of life, if it threw a pessimistic shadow over the things we count success, if it drew the attention too much from the race and fixed it too exclusively on the Ego, still it most markedlv tended to the improvement of self, and therefore in the end of all mankind. And if as a religion it should seem to have come short of that ideal grandeur which made the "awestruck ear" of Isreal receive its sanctions direct from the voice of Jehovah; or if again it falls beneath the magnificent conception which would have made of the whole world a true "Civitas Dei," "still it must be confessed that it taught that morality which is the practical part of *all* religions—the "nine-tenths," as a great writer has demanded, of the whole. So much is due to the memory and teaching of the illustrious Sakya-Muni. The Spiritual Temple is built of many stones, and not the least famous of them is Siddartha Gautama the Prophet and Master of Buddhism.

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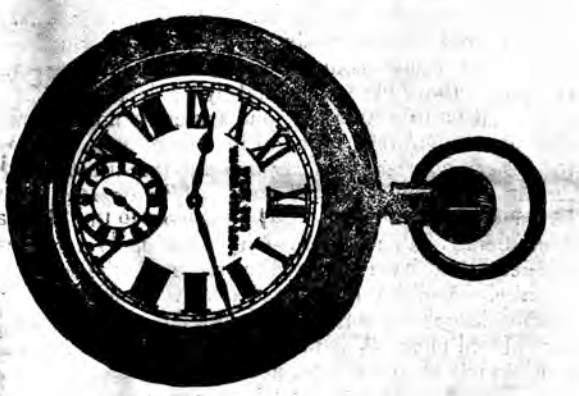

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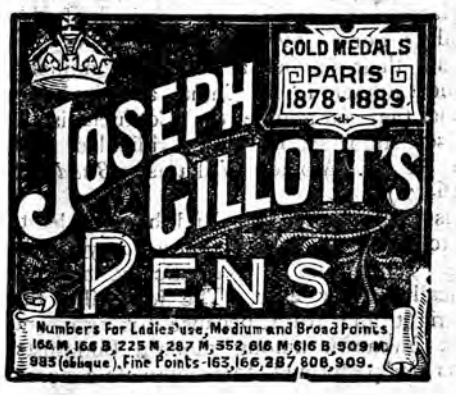
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